

# ARMY



# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

VOLUME VII.—NUMBER 23.  
WHOLE NUMBER 340.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1870.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.  
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

Publication Office, No. 39 Park Row.

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### ARMY AND PEOPLE.

**A**MONG the best-informed officers an impression prevails that Congress, following the recommendations of the President, the General of the Army, and others, will not find it necessary to materially legislate for reducing the military establishment this winter.

We believe it is generally admitted that the "economy" to be hoped for in cutting down the Army is quite disproportionate to the risk to be run. We do not mean thereby that there is anything threatening in the home or the foreign outlook. But it is considered the part of prudence, by many Congressmen, not to push reduction at this moment. In addition, a sense of the injustice of discharging officers against their will, without cause, and with so little pretext as now exists, has had its effect. And, finally, we think Congress has become convinced that the people do not demand the discharge of officers. Nothing is easier than to raise an ignorant cry of what "the people" want, when, in reality, it is but a fancy of the writer that "the people" want it; and in many cases this self-constituted spokesman does not share in the apocryphal popular desire himself, but is merely deluded into supposing his impersonal outcry in behalf of the dear public will be appreciated by them.

Seriously, we are convinced that there has been a grave error regarding the popular feeling concerning the Army. "Republics are ungrateful," possibly, but rather to individuals than to institutions; and the country recognizes the measureless debt it owes to the Army, forth from which came its GRANTS, SHERMANS, SHERIDANS, THOMASES, MEADES, HANCOCKS, and the long succeeding beaurocracy of illustrious commanders, whom the end of the war found leading at the front—even as great and well-trained race-horses, howsoever they are crowded back by nobodies at the start, go through the crowd in good time, cut down their less thoroughbred competitors, and, at the finish, show at the fore. Ten years ago, a long interval of peace had succeeded the taking of Mexico, and a forgetful people had come to view the Army as a kind of useless set of lazzaroni, and groaned under the military budget like Pilgrim under his pack. In those times, and especially when, the world over, the chief use of a standing Army appeared to be to trample out the sparks of popular liberty, there was more or less grumbling. But when our civil war broke out, and the Army paid for itself thrice over by the mere officering it furnished in our time of need, that feeling vanished. The cry which some journals raise against the Army is but an echo, a reminiscence of the ante-war feeling, and is quite out of tune with the real harmony existing between the Army and the people to-day.

So much we have desired to say, because we have taken pains ourselves, and have urged others

to take them, in order to find out how people in general really feel on this subject. Our own investigations have resulted in one conclusion, namely, that people believe it is very small and unworthy business for a country to turn away its professional officers on such a pretence. Let Congress once feel that there is no popular pressure in this direction, and the foundation of the whole scheme fails.

The bill, however, introduced by Mr. LOGAN into the House, provided for other legislation than reduction, and one of its sections is specially worthy of notice. We refer to the provision for transferring to the Secretary of War the jurisdiction now possessed by the Secretary of the Interior over all acts of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. This effort to restore the Indian Bureau to the War Department has been so often repeated, and has so often failed, that we hardly look hopefully for its success now, despite the strong recommendations of General GRANT both before and after he was chosen President. Besides, the proposed transfer now meets new obstacles. In the first place, the President, the General of the Army, the Interior Secretary, the War Secretary, the Indian Commissioner, being now in accord on Indian affairs, and in accord too with Congress, there seems to be less need for the transfer. In the second place, the rascally swindlers and traders having in great part given way to Quaker superintendents and agents, there seems also less to fear from the old system than in the days of the Indian Ring. In the third place, a strong effort is making for securing to the red men a "territorial government" and full citizenship, with the ballot, taxes, and other national blessings; and this, in some measure, precludes Army rule.

However, Mr. LOGAN's bill has some features in it which we hope may attract the careful attention of Congress. The Indian Bureau being transferred to the War Office, the War Secretary is thereupon authorized to establish convenient departments and districts, in which Army officers shall be substituted for the present Indian superintendents, agents, and sub-agents, while over them shall be placed an officer not below the rank of colonel, detailed to fill the office and discharge the duties of Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The War Bureau will then make the contracts for transportation; and it will make all the rules and licenses for traders who deal with the Indian tribes. In this simple way the whole cumbrous, complicated, and costly machinery of the Indian Bureau will be abolished, and a cheaper and better service will be substituted.

What we now call attention to is the fact that all this work, which requires so large an official outlay, is then to be done by officers "without additional compensation." It will be done also by a set of officers not only respected for their integrity and professional honor, but necessarily subjected to responsibility and accountability, such as the civil service never can furnish. Here is one way at least in which the military establishment may save money to the country, and in which unattached officers can be well and profitably employed.

HOLIDAY compliments were very courteously exchanged, it appears, between the authorities of Genoa and our vessels in those waters. Complimentary visits were paid and returned; and the

Italian newspapers speak with great enthusiasm of the friendly courtesy of our naval officers. Thereupon, one Florence correspondent writes that "it is of consequence, principally in a social point of view, that our naval officers should have opportunity to show themselves more frequently in the cities on this shore of the Mediterranean. Since Admiral FARRAGUT and his party were here, I believe no American naval buttons have been seen in Florence." We feel quite sure that "Barkis is willin'"; that our naval officers would be glad to sacrifice themselves to the national well-being in so good a cause, and would consent that the fair Florentines should have less excuse for forgetting the American pattern of navy button than they have now.

THE details of the annual work in the Commissary Department show how well, under some severe disadvantages and drawbacks on the Plains, the twelvemonth's labor has been performed. It is an old maxim that it is harder to feed than to fight an army; and we recall that General SHERMAN, in his Georgia and other campaigns, never failed to express his high admiration of any distinguished skill manifested in the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments, giving their officers praise as direct and unequivocal as he gave to successful corps or division commanders on the field. There were actually battle-fields in Georgia where, as in the famous railroad advance to Atlanta, the shriek of the locomotive, announcing that the track had been relaid and railroad supplies had come, was heard loud and louder in the rear, while the rattle of musketry told, by its faint and fainter echoes, that the enemy was slowly driven back along the torn-up and well-contested line of railway in front. The French have a motto, *La soupe fait le soldat*; and it is certain that it makes a great deal of difference whether a soldier gets his coffee and hard-tack after a day's battle at night, or has to wait till some confused and stupid commissary gets ready to distribute them in the morning. "They say the quartermaster's teams are all stuck in the mud up to the hub, five miles back." What swearing this announcement used to cause, and with justice, among the troops in advance! General SHERMAN, in his review of the report of the Commissary-General, General Eaton, says: "It is proper that I should say that the Army has been well supplied with good healthy food, and at all the posts are kept supplies of articles not embraced in the ration, for sale to the companies and the officers' families at a price sufficient to reimburse the department." This latter provision, as General SHERMAN explains, obviates the necessity for sutlers, who are now prohibited by law from acting except as traders, having no lien on the soldiers' pay.

SENATOR CHANDLER has made a very long speech in opposition to the movement of FITZ-JOHN PORTER for a re-hearing of his case. It was evidently prepared with great care, and may be taken as the strongest statement of the case against the cashiered officer. To Senator CHANDLER Senator WILSON briefly replied, explaining as his reason for sanctioning PORTER's request the fact that it was asserted that new testimony was to be offered, and that PORTER's former military services entitled him to consideration.



## THE ARMY.

UNDER authority from headquarters of the Army and Military Division of the South, Fort Pike, La., has been discontinued as a military post. Company A, Twenty-fifth Infantry, now garrisoning the place, is ordered to proceed without delay to Ship Island, Miss., and report to the post commander for duty.

A BILL has been introduced in the Senate authorizing the Secretary of War to transfer to the Secretary of the Interior, for disposition according to the existing laws of the United States relating to the public lands, the United States military reservations at Forts Lane and Walla-Walla, in the State of Oregon; Fort Zarah, in the State of Kansas; Camp McGarry, in the State of Nevada; Fort Sumner, in the Territory of New Mexico; and such portions of the reservation at Fort Bridger, in the Territory of Wyoming, as may no longer be required for military purposes.

MAJOR-GENERAL Meade, in General Orders from headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, announces that inasmuch as ample distribution is made of all orders issued from the headquarters of the Army, the practice of republishing them for general information alone will be discontinued. If, in the opinion of the department commander, there exists a necessity for a larger distribution of any particular order than is authorized, he will make application to division headquarters either for additional copies of the order or permission to republish the same. The republication of orders, letters, or decisions, emanating from superior authority, when unaccompanied by detailed instructions for their enforcement, which directions would properly constitute an order, will be in the form of a circular.

## ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending February 14, 1870.

Tuesday, February 15th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence until August 31, 1870, is hereby granted Captain E. C. Bowen, unattached.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 26, February 1, 1870, from this office, as relieved Brevet Major-General W. L. Elliott, lieutenant-colonel First U. S. Cavalry, from duty in the Department of the Lakes, and directed him to proceed to Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, in time to assume command of his regiment April 1, 1870, is hereby revoked.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster's Department will furnish George Casler, formerly private of Company E, Third U. S. Infantry; William H. Emoss and Thomas Brady, formerly privates of Company F, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry, with transportation from Dayton, Ohio, to this city, to enable them to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the Surgeon-General U. S. Army, from the fund appropriated for the benefit of discharged soldiers by the act of Congress approved July 5, 1862.

Private August Walz, Company B, Third U. S. Artillery, who deserted November 6, 1864, and surrendered himself to the military authorities at San Francisco, California, in January, 1870, is hereby restored to duty without trial and transferred to Company D, Second U. S. Artillery, to which he is now temporarily attached, stationed at Point San Jose, California, to serve out his term of enlistment.

The superintendent General Recruiting Service, Cincinnati, Ohio, will prepare detachments of convenient size of recruits which are or may from time to time become disposable at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, and forward them, under proper charge, to the points hereafter designated, where they will be reported, upon arrival, to the commanding-general Fifth Military District for assignment to the Eleventh U. S. Infantry: One hundred and thirty to Jefferson, Texas; seventy to Galveston, Texas.

Captain John Power, Sixteenth U. S. Infantry, having been reported as absent without leave since September 16, 1869, his name will be dropped from the rolls of his regiment.

By direction of the President, the following named officers are hereby transferred from the list of unassigned to the regiments set opposite their respective names, and will, upon being relieved from their present duties, join their proper stations: Captain William T. Gentry (brevet lieutenant-colonel) to Nineteenth U. S. Infantry (Company C); Captain William M. Wherry (brevet colonel) to Sixth U. S. Infantry (Company K); Captain Charles A. Whittier to Nineteenth U. S. Infantry (Company A); Captain Thomas E. Rose (brevet colonel) to Sixteenth U. S. Infantry (Company C).

By direction of the President, Captain James McMillan (brevet major), unassigned, is hereby transferred to Eleventh U. S. Infantry (Company H), and will, upon being relieved of his duties at the Military Academy on the 1st of July, 1870, join his proper station.

Wednesday, February 16th.

The sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 132, of July 27, 1868, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, directing that Private William Barber, Company K, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry (who escaped from con-

finement July 22, 1868, previous to the promulgation of his sentence, and was apprehended August 24, 1869), "forfeit all pay and allowances that are now or may become due him; to be dishonorably discharged the service of the United States; to be indelibly marked on the left hip with the letter 'D,' two inches long; to have one-half of his head shaved, and to be drummed out of the garrison; then to be confined for three years at such prison as the commanding general may direct," will be carried into effect by the commanding officer Fort Quitman, Texas, at which post the soldier is confined. He will be forwarded, under proper guard, to Ship Island, Mississippi, which is hereby designated as the place of his confinement, to serve out the sentence of the court, the confinement to be considered as commencing August 24, 1869, the date of his arrest.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Orders No. 42, of April 7, 1865, from headquarters Middle Military Division, directing that Corporal Robert Bell, Company H, Third New Jersey Cavalry, "be reduced to the ranks and confined at hard labor for the period of ten years in the penitentiary of Ohio, with the loss of all pay and allowances that are now due or may become due him," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

So much of Special Orders No. 26, February 1, 1870, from this office, as directed Brevet Major W. F. Spurgin, first lieutenant Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, to report in person to the commanding officer Fort Columbus, New York harbor, to accompany a detachment of recruits to the Eleventh U. S. Infantry, is hereby so amended as to direct him to report to the commanding officer Newport Barracks, Kentucky, to accompany a detachment of recruits to the Eleventh U. S. Infantry.

The leave of absence granted Assistant Surgeon J. Basil Girard in Special Orders No. 250, December 23, 1869, from headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended forty days.

Company K, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, will be relieved from duty in this city and proceed to join its regiment in the Department of the Platte March 31, 1870. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation by rail to Parkersburg, West Virginia, and by steamboat to St. Louis, Missouri, and Omaha, Nebraska.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 200, August 18, 1869, from this office, as directs that the pay of Second Lieutenant G. N. Whistler, Fifth U. S. Artillery, be stopped until he renders his account and returns for February, 1869, to the office of the Commissary-General of Subsistence, and complies with indorsement from that office of March 18, 1869, and with letter of July 24, 1869, handed him on the 27th ultimo (July, 1869) by the commandant of Fort Monroe, Virginia, is hereby so modified as to direct that his pay proper be stopped until the sum of \$393 13 is made good to the United States, on account of Army subsistence.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for six months, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Brevet Captain Frederick Robinson, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Artillery.

Thursday, February 17th.

Assistant Surgeon F. W. Elbrey, now on duty at Fort Columbus, New York harbor, will accompany the detachment of recruits directed by Special Orders No. 33, February 9, 1870, from this office, to be forwarded to Omaha, Nebraska, for the Seventh U. S. Infantry. On his arrival he will report in person to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to duty.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Henry A. Ellis, captain Fifteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 264, November 5, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended sixty days.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Hartwell, captain, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Virginia.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the following-named unattached officers are hereby detailed to execute the duties of Indian agents, under and by authority of the act of Congress organizing the Indian Department, approved June 30, 1884. They will report by letter, without delay, to Hon. E. S. Parker, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., for assignment to duty and for instructions: Brevet Colonel L. C. Boates, major; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. A. Hartwell, captain; Brevet Major W. P. Wilson, captain; Captain H. L. Beck, first lieutenant W. H. Andrews.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Captain Samuel B. McIntire, first lieutenant Second U. S. Artillery, in Special Orders No. 15, January 25, 1870, from headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, is hereby extended four months.

Brevet Captain Thomas L. Alston, first lieutenant, unassigned, is hereby relieved from duty with the Seventeenth U. S. Infantry and in the Department of Virginia, and will proceed to his home and await orders.

Upon the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel M. I. Ludington, quartermaster, will be relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, temporarily, by Captain G. W. Bradley, assistant quartermaster, March 1, 1870, and will report in person to the Quartermaster-General of the Army for duty.

First Lieutenant W. H. H. Crowell, unattached, now on temporary duty at Newport Barracks, Kentucky, is hereby assigned to permanent duty at that post.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Moore, paymaster, is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri on the completion of the duties assigned him by Special Orders No. 1, January 3, 1870, from headquarters Department of the Missouri, to enable him to visit Washington for the purpose of settling his accounts with the Government.

The resignation of Paymaster William G. Moore (bre-

vet lieutenant-colonel), U. S. Army, has been accepted by the President, to take effect April 12, 1870, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The resignation of Major J. P. Martin (brevet lieutenant-colonel), assistant adjutant-general U. S. Army, of his commission as captain Seventh U. S. Infantry (only), has been accepted by the President, to take effect from April 21, 1869.

Friday, February 18th.

Leave of absence for three months on surgeon's certificate of disability is hereby granted Brevet Brigadier-General B. H. Hill, lieutenant-colonel Fifth U. S. Artillery.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 5, of April 21, 1866, from headquarters District of the Rio Grande, directing that Private Stephen Larkin, Battery K, First U. S. Artillery, "forfeit to the United States all pay and allowances that are now or may become due him, except the just dues of the laundry and sutler; to have half of his head and beard shaved; to be indelibly marked with the letter 'D,' one and a half inches long, on the left hip; to be drummed out of the service of the United States, and to be confined at hard labor in the military prison at the Dry Tortugas for the term of five years, wearing a twenty-four pound ball attached by a chain four feet long to his left leg," is hereby remitted, and he will be released from confinement upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

Brevet Brigadier-General T. F. Rodenbough, major, unattached, is hereby relieved from recruiting service. He will turn over the public property and funds for which he is responsible to the superintendent General Recruiting Service, Cincinnati, Ohio, or the officer designated by him to receive them.

Brevet Brigadier-General T. F. Rodenbough, major, unattached, having been appointed by the Secretary of War deputy governor of the Soldiers' Home, on the recommendation of the Board of Commissioners thereof, will report accordingly. This order to take effect February 21, 1870.

Saturday, February 19th.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major Samuel M. Whitside, captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 17, January 22, 1870, from headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby extended fifty days.

Upon the expiration of the extension of leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 18, January 22, 1870, from this office, Second Lieutenant H. F. Winchester, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, will report in person to the commanding officer Newport Barracks, Kentucky, to accompany a detachment of recruits to Texas. On the completion of this duty he will join his proper station.

Captain Henry W. Patterson, Fourth U. S. Infantry, will, at his own request, be dropped from the rolls of his regiment and proceed to his home and await orders.

By direction of the President, Captain Charles J. Von Herrmann, brevet major, unassigned, is hereby transferred to the Fourth U. S. Infantry, and will report in person without delay to the commanding officer of his regiment for assignment to duty.

By direction of the President, upon the mutual applications of the officers concerned, the following transfers are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Greenleaf Cilley, brevet captain, from the First Cavalry to the Twelfth Infantry; First Lieutenant Edward Hunter, from the Twelfth Infantry to the First Cavalry. The officers thus transferred will join their proper stations without delay.

The extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Major M. L. Courtney, first lieutenant Twenty-fifth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 284, November 30, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended until June 18, 1870.

## COURTS-MARTIAL.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., on the 22d of February. Detail: Captain Isaac D'Isay, U. S. Army, unattached; Captain Deane Monahan, Third U. S. Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon W. F. Buchanan, U. S. Army; Brevet Captain William J. Cain, first lieutenant Third U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Captain John W. Chickering, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached. Brevet Captain W. R. Maize, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to convene at Baton Rouge, La., February 10th. Detail for the Court: Brevet Colonel Henry A. Hambricht, major Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Barnard, captain Nineteenth Infantry; Captain James H. Bradford, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Captain Mark Walker, first lieutenant Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant George H. Cook, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Captain George K. Spencer, second lieutenant Nineteenth Infantry. Second Lieutenant J. C. Fortune, Nineteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to convene at Jackson Barracks, La., February 11th. Detail: Brevet Brigadier-General Ed. W. Hinks, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-fifth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Charles B. Gaskill, captain Twenty-fifth Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. Welsh, captain Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant Wm. McFroy, Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant H. B. Quimby, regimental quartermaster, Twenty-fifth Infantry; First Lieutenant Edwin J. Stivers, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Second Lieutenant D. B. Wilson, Twenty-fifth Infantry. Captain Frank M. Coxe, Twenty-fifth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to convene at Little Rock, Arkansas, February 11th. Detail for the Court: Brevet Major-General R. B. Ayres, lieutenant-colonel Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Major George S. Peirce, captain Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Major A. H. Andrews, captain Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant Denis Carolin, Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieu-



tenant T. B. Robinson, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Thomas M. Wenie, Nineteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant John A. Payne, Nineteenth Infantry. First Lieutenant Alfred Fredburg, Nineteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at the Army building, corner of Houston and Greene streets, New York city, on Monday, the 21st of February, for the trial of First Lieutenant B. F. Ryer, Second U. S. Artillery, and such other persons as may be brought before it by authority from headquarters Department of the East. Detail: Brevet Brigadier-General Israel Vogdes, colonel First U. S. Artillery; Brevet Brigadier-General Henry D. Wallen, lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army, unattached; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Henry W. Closson, captain First U. S. Artillery; Brevet Major W. M. Maynadier, captain First U. S. Artillery; Brevet Colonel Guy V. Henry, captain First U. S. Artillery; Captain E. N. Wilcox, U. S. Army, unattached; Brevet Captain D. D. Wheeler, first lieutenant First U. S. Artillery; Brevet Captain John H. Coster, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached; First Lieutenant Cullen Bryant, Ordnance Department. First Lieutenant Asa Bird Gardner, First U. S. Artillery, judge-advocate.

BEFORE a General Court-martial which convened at Fort D. A. Russell, W. T., of which Brevet Major-General William H. Emory, colonel Fifth Cavalry, is president, was arraigned and tried Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Caleb H. Carlton, captain U. S. Army, on the charge of "neglect and violation of duty to the prejudice of good order and military discipline." The specification recited that the accused in December, 1868, commanding the station of Fort Fetterman, W. T., in an official inspection report of certain subsistence stores, certified that he had thoroughly examined them, and that they were all unfit for issue, being rotten, mouldy, wet, worthless, or rancid, and recommended their sale at public auction, or that they be dropped and destroyed; whereas, in fact, he had not thoroughly examined or inspected the said stores, which were really in the greater part fit for issue, causing a loss thereon of upwards of \$7,000. The accused pleaded "Not guilty," and was so found and honorably acquitted. Brevet Major-General Augur confirms the proceedings and findings; such confirmation, however, not to be regarded as an approval of the findings, if they are to be interpreted as sanctioning the manner in which Colonel Carlton performed his duty as inspector, as shown by the evidence and his own admissions in this case.

## ARMY PERSONAL.

ACTING Assistant Surgeon T. B. Chase, U. S. Army, was relieved, February 19th, from duty at Fort Wallace, and ordered to Fort Harker, Kansas.

ASSISTANT Surgeon P. F. Harvey, U. S. A., has been ordered to repair from Fort Pike to New Orleans, La., and report to the medical director Department of Louisiana.

UPON the recommendation of the acting signal officer of the Fourth Military District, First Lieutenant George H. Palmer, unattached, is designated as instructor in signalling for the post of Corinth, Miss.

FIRST Lieutenant J. M. Waite, Twenty-fifth Infantry, was ordered, February 5th, to proceed from Jackson Barracks to Forts Jackson and St. Philip without delay and report to the post commander.

SECOND Lieutenant Thomas H. Barber, First U. S. Artillery, has been ordered to report in person without delay to the superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, for assignment to duty.

THE commanding officer of the post of Little Rock, Ark., has been authorized to send an officer from that place to Fort Smith, Ark., with the remains of the late Lieutenant L. S. Windle, Nineteenth Infantry.

FIRST Lieutenant A. E. Miltimore, First U. S. Artillery, has been relieved from special duty at Fort Hamilton, New York harbor, and ordered to return to his proper station, Madison Barracks, Sackett's Harbor, N. Y.

BREVEE Brigadier-General Charles L. Kilburn, colonel and assistant commissary-general of subsistence, chief commissary of the Military Division of the Atlantic, is assigned to duty in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from February 23d.

CAPTAIN H. J. Ripley, unassigned, having reported at headquarters Department of the Missouri, has been ordered to the vicinity of Camp Supply, I. T., to assume the duties of issuing commissary to the Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the headquarters of the Military Division of the Atlantic for an extension of thirty days, was, February 23d, granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. B. Reed, first lieutenant and adjutant Fifth U. S. Artillery.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days, to go beyond the limits of the Department of Dakota, with permission to apply at headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of twenty days, was, February 11th, granted Second Lieutenant Edwin Turnock, Twentieth U. S. Infantry.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East for the week ending February 23, 1870: Second Lieutenant G. E. Burton, Sixth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Major Charles T. Greene, U. S. Army; Brevet Major William Dickinson, U. S. Army; Brevet Major-General J. M. Brannan, First U. S. Artillery.

BREVEE Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Johnson, captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry, commanding post of Waco, Texas, has been ordered to relieve First Lieutenant James H. Sands, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, from duty at Waco, and directed to immediately comply with paragraph 14, Special Orders No. 292, Adjutant-General's office, series of 1869.

ASSISTANT Surgeon P. F. Harvey, U. S. A., was relieved, February 5th, from duty at Fort Pike, La., and ordered to report to the commanding officer at Ship Island, Miss., for duty as post surgeon, relieving Assistant Surgeon J. T. Payne, U. S. A., who will proceed to Jackson Barracks, La., and report to the commanding officer and post surgeon for duty at that station.

THE following assignments of field officers of the First Artillery have been made, previous orders having been revoked: 1st. Brevet Major-General John M. Brannan, major First U. S. Artillery, to Fort Wadsworth, New York harbor, relieving Brevet-Colonel C. L. Best, major First Artillery. 2d. Brevet-Colonel C. L. Best, major First Artillery, to Fort Delaware, Del.

SOUTHERN papers report the death of Major William H. Chase, formerly of the United States Engineer Corps, on the 1st inst., at Pensacola, Fla., of which city he has been a useful citizen since he resigned his commission in the Army. He was formerly a professor at the West Point Military Academy, and Fort Pickens, on Santa Rosa Island, was built under his immediate supervision. He was a native of Boston, Mass.

TRANSCRIPT from Officers' Register at headquarters Department of Louisiana for the week ending February 12, 1870: Second Lieutenant W. M. Bandy, Nineteenth Infantry; Brevet Major Jno. R. Myrick, first lieutenant, adjutant Third Artillery; Assistant Surgeon P. F. Harvey, U. S. Army; Lieutenant G. W. Budd, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Captain G. W. Davis, Fourteenth Infantry; Captain F. B. Hamilton, Fourteenth Infantry.

TRANSCRIPT of Officers' Register at headquarters Fifth Military District, for week ending February 5, 1870: Brevet Major A. R. Chaffee, captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Captain Chas. G. Penney, first lieutenant U. S. Army; First Lieutenant C. M. Edwards, Tenth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Alured Larke, Tenth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Thomas Dunn, U. S. Army; Brevet Major-General Cuvier Grover, lieutenant-colonel, U. S. Army.

A BILL for the relief of Captain John A. Wilcox has been introduced in the Senate, directing the proper accounting officers in settling the accounts of John A. Wilcox, captain Fourth regiment of United States Cavalry, to credit said Wilcox with the sum of \$764 10, being the amount of government funds which were stolen from him, without his default, at or near Fort Clark, Texas, on the 14th of February, 1867.

## STATIONS OF CAVALRY REGIMENTS,

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ROSTER RECEIVED.

First Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General Geo. A. H. Blake, colonel, headquarters Fort Vancouver, W. T. Company A, Camp Bidwell, Cal.

" B, Camp Warner, Oregon.  
" C, Camp Crittenden, A. T.  
" D, Fort Lapwai, I. T.  
" E, Camp McDowell, A. T.  
" F, Camp Harney, Oregon.  
" G, Camp Bowie, A. T.  
" H, Camp Harney, Oregon.  
" I, Camp Winfield Scott, Nevada.  
" K, Camp Grant, A. T.  
" L, Camp Goodwin, A. T.  
" M, Camp Grant, A. T.

Second Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General I. N. Palmer, colonel, headquarters Omaha Barracks, Nebraska. Company A, Omaha Barracks, Nebraska.

" B, In the field, Nebraska.  
" C, In the field, Nebraska.  
" D, Snake Indian Reservation, W. T.  
" E, Omaha Barracks, Nebraska.  
" F, Fort Shaw, M. T.  
" G, Fort Shaw, M. T.  
" H, Fort Shaw, M. T.  
" I, Omaha Barracks, Nebraska.  
" K, In the field, W. T.  
" L, Fort Shaw, M. T.  
" M, In the field.

Third Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General W. N. Grier, colonel, headquarters Fort Union, N. M. Company A, Fort Union, N. M.

" B, Fort Bayard, N. M.  
" C, Fort Bascom, N. M.  
" D, Fort Union, N. M.  
" E, Fort Craig, N. M.  
" F, Fort Stanton, N. M.  
" G, Fort Union, N. M.  
" H, Fort Selden, N. M.  
" I, Fort Union, N. M.  
" K, Fort Selden, N. M.  
" L, Fort Wingate, N. M.  
" M, Fort Wingate, N. M.

Fifth Cavalry.—Brevet Major-General W. H. Emory, colonel, headquarters Fort McPherson, Nebraska. Company A, Fort McPherson, Neb.

" B, In the field, Neb.  
" C, Plum Creek Station, Neb.  
" D, Ogallala Station, Neb.  
" E, In the field.  
" F, In the field.  
" G, Sidney Station, Neb.  
" H, Fort McPherson, Neb.  
" I, In the field.  
" K, In the field.  
" L, In the field.  
" M, In the field.

Sixth Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General James Oakes, colonel, headquarters Fort Richardson, Texas. Company A, Nacogdoches, Texas.

" B, Livingston, Texas.  
" C, Fort Richardson, Texas.  
" D, Fort Richardson, Texas.  
" E, Waco, Texas.  
" F, Shreveport, La.  
" G, Fort Richardson, Texas.  
" H, Mount Pleasant, Texas.  
" I, Tyler, Texas.  
" K, Greenville, Texas.  
" L, Greenville, Texas.  
" M, Tyler, Texas.

Seventh Cavalry.—Brevet Major-General S. D. Sturgis, colonel, headquarters Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Company A, S. E. Kansas.

" B, Fort Lyon, C. T.  
" C, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.  
" D, Fort Harker, Kansas.  
" E, Fort Wallace, Kansas.  
" F, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.  
" G, Fort Hays, Kansas.  
" H, Fort Hays, Kansas.  
" I, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.  
" K, Fort Harker, Kansas.  
" L, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.  
" M, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Eighth Cavalry.—Brevet Brigadier-General J. I. Gregg, colonel, headquarters Camp Halleck, Nevada. Company A, Camp McDowell, A. T.

" B, Camp Date Creek, A. T.  
" C, Camp McDowell, A. T.  
" D, Fort Whipple, A. T.  
" E, Camp at Toll-gate, A. T.  
" F, Camp at Toll-gate, A. T.  
" G, Camp Bowie, A. T.  
" H, Camp Halleck, Nevada.  
" I, Camp McDowell, A. T.  
" K, Camp at Toll-gate, A. T.  
" L, Fort Whipple, A. T.  
" M, Camp McDowell, Nevada.

Tenth Cavalry.—Brevet Major-General B. H. Grierson, colonel, headquarters Fort Sill, I. T. Company A, Camp Supply, I. T.

" B, Fort Sill, I. T.  
" C, Fort Arbuckle, I. T.  
" D, Fort Sill, I. T.  
" E, Fort Sill, I. T.  
" F, Camp Supply, I. T.  
" G, Fort Dodge, Kansas.  
" H, Camp Supply, I. T.  
" I, Camp Supply, I. T.  
" K, Camp Supply, I. T.  
" L, Fort Arbuckle, I. T.  
" M, Fort Arbuckle, I. T.

## OUR DISABLED VETERANS.

A MASS meeting of the citizens of New York, without distinction of party, was held at the Cooper Institute on the evening of February 21st, for the purpose of urging the passage of a law establishing a soldiers' home in the State of New York, as an asylum for the wounded and disabled veterans of our late war. The band from Governor's Island furnished music. The meeting was presided over by Peter Cooper, and addresses were made by him and by Henry Ward Beecher, General Sherman, Horace Greeley, Judge Daly, and others. Letters were also read from the President, from General Sheridan, Governor Hoffman, and others. A series of resolutions urging the establishment of a soldiers' home was adopted by acclamation. Among these resolutions were the following:

*Resolved*, That while we recognize the sacredness of pecuniary pledges whereby our Government was enabled to raise money loans in support of the Union, we are no less conscious of our holier obligations to pay the great debt which we owe to those dearer creditors of the nation who gave their own blood, and yielded their fathers, husbands, brothers, and sons in loyal sacrifice to sustain the integrity and perpetuity of our free institutions.

*Resolved*, That the spectacle daily witnessed of maimed and helpless veterans soliciting public charity and exhibiting their neglected poverty, clad in the rags of the United States service, is repugnant to our self-respect as American citizens, and admonishes us that our entire nation is held accountable by strangers for the apparent abandonment of its defenders to indigence and want until they become beggars in the streets of our great cities.

*Resolved*, That the dire necessity which has driven hundreds of these veterans to the alternative of hunger and cold, or seeking temporary refuge in the poor-houses of Blackwell's Island, is a deplorable supplement to the refusal by our State Legislature, last year, of its usual appropriation for the Soldiers' Home at Albany; and that we respectfully and earnestly ask the Legislature now in session to take prompt action for the establishment of a permanent home for disabled soldiers and sailors, that shall be worthy of the patriotism, the wealth, the benevolence, and the justice of the State of New York.

*Resolved*, That it is the immediate duty of Congress to amend the pension laws, so that United States pensions, hereafter, shall be paid monthly, instead of semi-annually, and through the Post Office, by money orders, instead of through a multitude of pension agents supported by a percentage on the scanty stipend which ought to belong entirely to the pensioners themselves.

*Resolved*, That an executive committee be appointed to carry out the objects of this meeting.

General Sherman, who was received with the most marked enthusiasm, spoke as follows:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: It was understood by myself and by my friends that I would not be called upon more than simply to acknowledge the kindness of the parties present; and even now I hope you will pardon me if I make my remarks as short as possible, just enough to fulfil your expectations. I must confess that I am somewhat astonished and a little hurt as a soldier to find that soldiers maimed and wounded and thrown upon the charity of the great State of New-York have been sent to Blackwell's Island. I hope it is not so. If it be that any of my old soldiers are there, I will undertake to put them where they will not be associated with criminals. [Great applause.] But, it seems to me, the mere knowledge of the fact is enough. If the knowledge of that fact be spread abroad, every citizen of New York will be willing to give his little mite toward a home that will enable them to live in honorable comfort, where the soldier may go, not in charity or as a pauper, but as a matter of right and justice. [Applause.] I remember well when we went to the front, when through every State of the South we were cheered on, we were assured every man would be held in remembrance, provided we saved our Government and country. [Cheers.] Every soldier was assured that if he lost his life his children should be cared for; every one was assured that if he lost his limbs he should be cared for in his helpless state. It is not charity, it is a national com-



fact [cheers], and a compact which I know the people of the United States, when they understand it, will fulfil. I have been to many of these Soldiers' Homes, perhaps more than any one here present; I know something of them in my official character, but I will not undertake to describe them to you, because the Committee can find all the facts and their cost to the very cent. General Scott, who established the first one in the United States, when he took Mexico, left \$100,000 to endow a Soldiers' Home for the old and feeble soldiers of the Regular Army. That has been well distributed in the city of Washington. Congress added to it from the fund resulting from fines to soldiers, and provision has been made to establish one in Harrisburg, where the disabled soldiers will be supported in independence, and accorded permission to go and come as they choose, with simply enough restraint for their own welfare. In like manner, since the war closed, under certain commissioners, homes have been established in Augusta, Me., Ohio and Milwaukee, and other Western States, and a home has been spoken of here. I went to Milwaukee three years ago and saw the children cluster around me clean and healthy, their little faces upturned and their voices asking me if I knew their fathers. I remember once I told a little girl I knew her father, and I never will forget the look of gratitude she gave me. I have no doubt if you saw that little child you would have contributed your share toward the Soldiers' Home in the State of New York. I again repeat what Mr. Beecher has well said, far better than I can, that this is not charity, for if ever there was a just debt on earth this is one. Think for a moment what would have been the result had the Confederacy been established as a nation, with the frontier close to our own, and nothing to separate us but a fancied line, which could, at a moment, be crossed? Slavery on one side and freedom on the other. War interminable, there would have been little security for life and property in New York. Think of your commerce here. What would this house be worth? What would be the worth of those great business marts in Broadway? Nothing. Everything would have to be taken for the state of war which would probably last one hundred years; but by the valor of these men who left their arms behind them you have now a whole country, uniform in its character, uniform in its population, and with greater prospects for the future before it than any nation on earth. [Cheers.] I hope this appeal will not be made in vain, that you each and every one will be an agent to tell the citizens of New York, and that before another month passes you can look the Western people and the Southern people in the face and say that your soldiers, your maimed soldiers, are not on Blackwell's Island. [Great cheering.]

The following is President Grant's letter:

WASHINGTON, February 16, 1870.

Edward Cromwell, Esq., Chairman, New York City.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of February 11th, announcing the calling of a meeting to urge State legislation for a home for the maimed and disabled soldiers who defended our country in her hour of need.

I regret that my duties will not permit my accepting the invitation to be present on the occasion.

The object is one that appeals to the heart of every one who sympathized and acted in the preservation of our great republic.

I hope your meeting will be very successful, and that not only will New York provide for her heroes, but that each State that has not already done so will give the just aid to the band of deserving men, and also provide for the orphans of those who gave their lives to preserve the life of their Government. Yours truly,

U. S. GRANT.

Enthusiastic applause greeted the above, as also the following from General Sheridan:

NEW YORK, February 18, 1870.

Mr. Edward Cromwell.

DEAR SIR: I have only this moment received your letter of February 10th, inviting me to be present at the meeting at the Cooper Institute, on the 21st inst.

I regret exceedingly that I cannot say positively that I will be present. I have, unfortunately, made an engagement which calls me from the city to-morrow, but, if possible, I will return for Monday night. I feel the greatest interest and sympathy in the disabled soldiers, and hope I may be able to be present to participate in the good work contemplated for them. Yours very truly,

P. H. SHERIDAN, Lieutenant-General.

Governor Hoffman, in a letter regretting his non-attendance, urged the claims of the crippled and diseased soldiers, and said that at the last session of the Legislature he urged the continuance of the appropriation for the Soldiers' Home, thinking the question of so much importance as to make it the subject of a special message. He regrets that our law-makers did not heed his appeal, but passed an act making a limited appropriation, with the condition that the home should be closed in three or four months. In obedience to this law, the inmates were transferred to United States asylums in distant cities, very much against the Governor's inclination.

A BERLIN paper, quoted by the *Army and Navy Gazette*, announces that it has been found, from experiments recently made by the military authorities, that a sheet of ice three inches thick affords a perfectly safe passage for infantry or horses marching in single file, and for light carriages; with a thickness of six inches it will bear all sorts of wagons and cannon. The strength of the ice may be increased by covering it with straw and laying planks under the wagon wheels. The last-named precaution is to be recommended with heavy vehicles, even when the ice is six inches thick. All jerking and irregular motion is to be avoided, as it serves to make the ice dangerous.

THE U. S. steamer *Iroquois* is now on her way home from the Asiatic fleet, and is expected to arrive at Norfolk early in April. The *Onida* is expected at San Francisco about the same time from the same fleet.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

### VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

MIDSHIPMAN Henry Harris, U. S. Navy, having been reported by the superintendent of the Naval Academy as deficient in conduct, the Secretary of the Navy has caused his name to be dropped from the rolls of the Naval Academy.

MR. SUMNER has presented to the Senate the memorial of the faculty of Harvard College, asking that such rank be accorded to the medical officers of the Navy as is befitting an honorable profession and conducive to the efficacy of the naval service.

SECRETARY Robeson, on the 22d, telegraphed to the commandant of the Navy-yard at Portsmouth, N. H., to resume work in the construction and repairing and steam engineering departments of that yard, re-employing the same men who were suspended when the work was stopped.

A BILL is before the Naval Committee of the House of Representatives to authorize the name of Charles H. Pendleton, lieutenant U. S. Navy, to be placed upon the Navy Register as lieutenant-commander, active list, from March 12, 1868, with the pay of such rank to the date of his commission.

THE sentence of a Naval General Court-martial in the case of Surgeon William Johnson, Jr., U. S. Navy, late of the U. S. steamer *Jamestown*, Pacific fleet, to be dismissed the service of the United States, having been approved by the President, Secretary Robeson has given orders that he will no longer be regarded as an officer of the United States Navy.

In the issue of the JOURNAL of the 13th January, there was published in the gazette of official orders that Assistant Surgeon W. S. Bowen was ordered to join the *Osippee* in the Pacific Squadron, orders dated January 10th. On that day Surgeon Bowen was ordered for duty at the Boston Navy-yard, and the published order was an error at Washington.

THE London *Broad Arrow*, under the "sarcastical" head of "Rapid Promotion," says: "Out of a list of about seven hundred naval engineers [in the British Navy], two were promoted to the rank of chief engineer in 1868 and three in 1869! Five promotions in two years! What is the service coming to? The senior engineer dates from 1851, just 19 years, and there are 43 engineers of upwards of 10 years' service in that rank."

THE House Naval Committee has appointed a sub-committee, composed of Messrs. Scofield, Stevens, and Archer, to prepare a bill fixing the pay of officers of the Navy in the same manner as provided in Mr. Logan's Army bill. They have addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, requesting him to furnish the number of officers required in the different grades. The new bill, which they are maturing, gives positive instead of assimilated rank.

WE have received the printed programme of a "Grand Ethiopian Entertainment," given on board the U. S. steamer *Alaska* on the evening of February 21st, by a minstrel company organized from among the seamen of the vessel. The entertainment the programme announces as by "the great combination, the U. S. S. *Alaska* Minstrel Company. Five star comedians! the greatest dancers! unequalled orchestra! unapproachable general performers! entirely new and matchless mammoth programme!" The selection of songs and pieces performed was large and varied, and, we have no doubt, well performed.

THE report of the Conference Committee on the Special Naval Appropriation bill has been adopted by the House. It fixes the appropriation at \$2,000,000. The chairman explained that the bill as it passed the House gave \$1,000,000 for the Bureau of Construction and Repair, and \$500,000 for the Bureau of Steam Engineering. The Committee had agreed to increase the amount to \$1,500,000 for construction, leaving still \$500,000 for steam engineering. These sums were absolutely necessary to put in course of completion many vessels now undergoing repairs. Thousands of men, whose work was now suspended at the various yards, would again have employment.

REAR-ADMIRAL John R. Goldsborough, commandant of the Navy-yard at Mare Island, Cal., informs the Secretary, under date of the 11th instant, that the U. S. steamer *Saranac*, Commander P. C. Johnson, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Turner, left that anchorage and proceeded down the bay; and on the 12th that the U. S. steamer *Saginaw*, Lieutenant-Commander M. S. S. commanding, left that anchorage and proceeded down the bay on the morning of the 13th. The same officer reports, under the same date, that the U. S. sloop *St. Mary's*, Commander H. Harris commanding, was placed in commission that day. She will proceed on the same mission.

A CORRESPONDENT at Norfolk, Va., Navy-yard, sends the following: February 15th—A detachment of U. S. Marines, consisting of one sergeant, twenty-one privates, and one prisoner, arrived at the yard at 6:30 A. M. from Washington, D. C. There are 416 men employed in the different departments of this yard to-day. James Kennedy, gate-keeper and detective in this yard for several years past, was removed to-day, and C. A. Schafer, a watchman in the yard, put in his place. Mr. Kennedy has taken the place of Mr. Schafer. Laban J. Smith has taken the place of Jno. W. Tucker, foreman of the house joiners, in the Bureau of Yards and Docks. Mr. Tucker is highly spoken of by all the officers on this station.

THE Portsmouth (N. H.) *Chronicle* says: "An amusing incident occurred at Portland on the occasion of the reception of the Peabody funeral fleet. Snow and sleet

had fallen the day before, followed by rain during the night. In the morning the double-turreted monitors *Terror* and *Miantonomoh* presented a beautiful appearance under the rays of the sun. Ice had formed two inches thick on the stays, guards, flagstays, hurricane decks, turrets, and chains; icicles were pendent from the eight thousand square feet of gratings which form the hurricane deck. At the first fire of the heavily charged fifteen-inch guns the whole mass of ice came down with a crash upon the heads of the officers and men. The windows in the pilot house breaking at the same time, frightened the Portland pilots so badly that they sprang from the pilot houses to the guys, slid down about forty feet to the decks, and took to their boats, under the impression that the monitors were sinking."

In the Senate of the United States, on the 17th, Mr. Anthony brought in a resolution to regulate the effect of a vote of the thanks of Congress upon promotion in the Navy, which provides that a vote of thanks by Congress to any officer of the Navy shall be held to affect such officer only; and when as an incident thereof an officer who would otherwise be retired has been or is retained on the active list, such retention shall not interfere with the regular promotion of his juniors to which they would otherwise have been entitled by law; and where any officer has already been retired at a grade lower than he would have been had the provisions of this law been in force, he shall be considered in all things as if they had been in force at the time of his retirement: *Provided, however*, that no promotion shall be made to fill a vacancy occasioned by the final retirement, death, resignation, or dismissal of an officer who has received a vote of thanks, unless the number of officers left in the grade where the vacancy occurs shall be less than the number authorized by law.

THE U. S. steamer *Seminole* (third rate), carrying seven guns, which arrived a few days since, is to be put out of commission at once, at the Brooklyn Navy-yard. She has been hauled alongside the *Roanoke* and commenced delivering her stores. The *Yantic* is nearly ready for sea. She has several thousand fathoms of deep-sea sounding lines on board, and a score or more sounding leads. One of Andrews's steam engines is being placed upon the port side of the spar deck, to drive a reel by which the sounding line will be hauled in. By this means the labor and time saved will be very great, and far better results will be obtained. The *Yantic*, it will be remembered, goes out to run a line of deep-sea soundings from the West India Islands to the main land. It is uncertain how long she will be absent. The *Saratoga*, sailing sloop, has been hauled into the berth lately occupied by the *Yantic*, and will soon be completed for sea. The *Canandaigua* is in the dry dock being rebuilt from the copper up. Gen. George B. McClellan and Mr. Isaac Newton, the engineers of the Stevens bomb-proof battery, now building at Hoboken, visited the Navy-yard this week and viewed F. E. Sickels's new and improved method of steering by steam. A working model of the machinery was in operation, as well as two models of vessels with the machinery applied to the screw and rudder.

THE Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Commodore S. B. Bissell, praying a modification of the act of January 16, 1857, so that he may receive the pay of a commander while holding the commission for that rank in the naval service, and the joint resolution for his relief, have reported as follows: "The petitioner, then a lieutenant in the United States Navy, by a board of naval officers constituted under the act of February 28, 1855, was placed on furlough. That afterwards, under the provisions of the act of January 16, 1857, by a court of inquiry constituted under said act, the petitioner was placed on leave of absence. That in accordance with the joint resolution of March 10, 1858, authorizing the President to restore certain officers to the active list, where the records of courts of inquiry 'may render it advisable,' the petitioner was placed on the active list, and was also promoted to the rank of commander, to date from September 14, 1855, the day he was furloughed by the naval board. It further appears that by the interpretation given to the sixth section of the act of January 16, 1857, the petitioner has received only the pay of a lieutenant from the 13th of September to January 14, 1855, although holding a commission of commander for that time. The committee have not deemed it necessary to inquire into the justice or injustice of the orders or recommendations of the board of naval officers and courts of inquiry before named; for, if any wrong had been done the petitioner thereby, the President had ample power under the joint resolution of March 10, 1858, to restore him. The President did restore him to the active list, with the advice and consent of the Senate, and commissioned him a commander. Believing that every officer should receive the pay designated by law for his proper rank, the committee recommend that the petitioner be paid the amount due to his rank, withheld under the sixth section of the act of January 16, 1857, and therefore report the accompanying joint resolution and ask its passage."

A LETTER from Rear-Admiral Joseph Lanman, commanding the South Atlantic fleet, dated January 6th, on the *Lancaster*, in the harbor of Rio de Janeiro, says the *Lancaster* arrived there on that date, having sailed from Bahia on the 30th of December last. Off Cape Trio the *Lancaster* made 12½ knots per hour, making 42½ miles in the morning watch under top-gallant sails, wind upon the quarter—most favorable sailing point. Under date of January 10th, Rear-Admiral Lanman writes the Department, enclosing the monthly report of the employment, etc., of the United States steamer *Portsmouth* for the month of December. The general condition of the ship is good. January 22d, the admiral reports the departure of the United States steamer *Portsmouth* for Cape Town; thence to Cape Paul de Loanda, St. Helena, Ascension, returning to Rio de Janeiro on the 1st of May. The *Quinnebaug* and *Wasp* were in the Rio de la Plata, at anchor off Montevideo. On the 19th of December last, by request of the United States Minister Resi-



dent at Buenos Ayres, Hon. Mr. Kirk, the *Quinnebaug*, with Mr. Kirk on board, visited that city and the settlement of Colonia, a few miles distant, communicating with Captain Manton, the newly appointed United States consul at that place. There are a few American citizens residing there, and the visit of the *Quinnebaug* tended, in a manner, to impress them with due confidence in the authority delegated to Captain Manton. Commander Barrett reports having rendered assistance to a French bark on fire in the river, and that Captain Manton had accomplished the construction of a marine railway that would enable vessels of considerable tonnage to be hauled up for repairs. Colonia promises, at no distant day, to become a place of considerable importance to the shipping interest in the Rio de la Plata. Everything was reported quiet by Commander Barrett at Buenos Ayres on the 31st ult., and revolutionary agitation had entirely subsided. The *Quinnebaug* will be despatched in time to arrive in the United States by the 1st of June. Visits of courtesy have been made by Captain Woolsey and returned by the commanders of foreign vessels of war, and the national anniversary of the birth of the King of Portugal, on the 31st of October, was observed by the *Portsmouth* in the harbor of Rio, and the honors directed by the Department in memory of the late Rear-Admiral Charles Stewart. January 25th, Admiral Lanman writes that during the visit at Rio de Janeiro the usual courtesies have been received by this ship and returned, both from the officials ashore and afloat. On the 22d of January, agreeably to the request and arrangement made by the Hon. Henry T. Blow, American Minister, myself and five officers of the *Lancaster*, with Captain Semmes, of the *Portsmouth*, were presented to his Imperial Majesty Dom Pedro II. The ceremony was agreeable in every respect, and as an evidence of the interest which His Majesty takes in our Navy, I may remark that he made especial inquiry in regard to Rear-Admirals Davis and Godon, having visited their flagships; also, inquired after Commodore John Rodgers, and expressed the gratification which he had in visiting the *Monadnock* on her way to the Pacific. I extended the same civility in regard to the *Lancaster*, which he will accept on the return of the ship to Rio. At the desire of Mr. Blow, I have paid my respects to all the foreign ministers at this court, with the exception of the French.

The report of the Special Committee of the House of Representatives on navigation interests has been submitted. It is very full and important. The committee, in prosecuting its inquiries, held sessions in the cities of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Portland, receiving the statements of merchants, shipbuilders, ship-owners, and insurance agents, gentlemen having practical knowledge and experience relating to the matter under investigation. The Ship-owners' Associations of New York, Philadelphia, and Maine, and the Board of Trade of Boston, were represented at the sessions of the committee, and presented the views of these various associations. Like information and evidence were received in the sessions of the committee held at the Capitol during the present session of Congress. Circular letters were addressed to gentlemen engaged in the various branches of business connected with the shipping interests, requesting a statement of their views on the subject under inquiry, and also to American consuls at the principal ports of foreign countries, asking them to furnish information in regard to the condition of the mercantile marine of those countries. Among the evidence reported is that of Vice-Admiral Porter, which is long and valuable. The following is a very brief summary of it: There was not a vessel in our Navy to-day to be compared with the foreign mail steamers plying to New York and European ports. They could readily be made available for warlike purposes. Had we possessed half the steamers now engaged in New York and European trade when the rebellion broke out, we should have closed every port, and not a bale of cotton would have got out. The Navy at present "was made of tugs and old converted ships." Isherwoods were useless. There were many iron-clads on the lists, but 26 were condemned and only fit to be sold for old iron. These English and French mail steamers would be made twice as efficient as any vessels we have or had. We did not catch thirty vessels by fair running. The depression of our commercial marine was decreased with our available force of engineers, and even of masters and officers. The best class of these are disappearing. Our Atlantic liners are the best merchant seamen in the world, but they are all going or gone into foreign service. The only vessels that pay now are the old rat-traps that we sell out of the Navy at a very low price. High duties affect the Navy as well as the merchant service. The Admiral does not believe that with drawbacks even we can build as cheaply as on the Clyde, labor costing so much more. He would subsidize mail steamers to the extent of the postage on all mail matter carried. With regard to the English naval reserve system, he stated that it worked well. Eighty thousand seamen could be raised through it in a short time. The reserve proper amounts to twenty thousand men. All steamships must be built of iron. The Navy would probably use wood for clippers only. All the commercial powers use iron altogether.

#### CASE OF PAYMASTER T. C. MASTEN, U. S. N.

The following general order has been issued by the Navy Department in the case of Paymaster Thomas C. Masten, United States Navy:

I. At a naval General Court-martial convened at the Navy-yard at Norfolk, Va., January 5, 1870, by order of the Secretary of the Navy, dated December 21, 1869, of which Commodore John M. Berrien, U. S. N., was president, was tried Paymaster Thomas C. Masten, U. S. N., upon the following charges and specifications:

Charge I. Neglect of official duty. Specification—In this: that said Thomas C. Masten, a paymaster in the United States Navy, on or about the 28th day of October, 1869, at or near Norfolk Virginia, being then attached to the Norfolk Navy-yard as inspector of provisions and

Clothing, and being then and there ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to transfer to Paymaster T. T. Caswell, United States Navy, all the public stores, accounts, and money in his, said Masten's, charge as such inspector, and to render his accounts for settlement, did then and there neglect, and hath ever since neglected, to make such transfer and to render such accounts.

Charge II. Disobedience of orders. Specification—In this: that said Thomas C. Masten, a paymaster in the United States Navy, on or about the 28th day of October, 1869, at or near Norfolk, Virginia, being then attached to the Norfolk Navy-yard as inspector of provisions and clothing, and being then and there ordered by the Secretary of the Navy to transfer to Paymaster T. T. Caswell, United States Navy, all the public stores, accounts, and money in his, said Masten's, charge as paymaster and inspector, and to render his accounts for settlement, did then and there neglect, and hath ever since neglected, to make such transfer and to render such accounts.

Charge III. Absence without leave. Specification—In this: that said Thomas C. Masten, a paymaster in the United States Navy, attached to and doing duty as inspector of provisions and clothing at the Navy-yard at Norfolk, Virginia, on or about the 9th of October, 1869, did then and there, without leave, absent himself from said Navy-yard and from his duty as paymaster and inspector, and did remain so absent until on or about the 17th of said October.

Charge IV. Scandalous and unofficerlike conduct. Specification—In this: that said Thomas C. Masten, a paymaster in the United States Navy, attached to the Navy-yard at Norfolk, Virginia, on or about the 28th of October, 1869, being then and there by the Secretary of the Navy detached from said post and ordered to turn over the property in his charge to Paymaster T. T. Caswell, U. S. Navy, and to render to the Navy Department his accounts for settlement, did then and there disregard said orders and hath ever since disregarded them, and did then and there depart from said Navy-yard and go to parts unknown, without reporting, as by the regulations required, his address to the Navy Department, but concealed his address and place of abode from the said department, and hath ever since kept the said department unadvised thereof.

To each of these charges and specifications the accused pleaded "Guilty."

The Court found the accused, Paymaster Thomas C. Masten, U. S. N., of the charges and specifications preferred against him, "Guilty by plea." The Court thereupon sentenced the accused as follows: "To be dismissed from the service of the United States."

II. Pursuant to Section I, Article 19 of the act of Congress for the better government of the Navy of the United States, approved July 17, 1862, the sentence in this case has been submitted to the President, and he has approved the same.

III. Paymaster Thomas C. Masten, U. S. Navy, will accordingly from the date of this order be no longer regarded as an officer in the United States Navy.

#### THE BROOKLYN NAVY-YARD.

The following is a copy of the letter written by Rear-Admiral Godon in reference to the Brooklyn Navy-yard:

COMMANDANT'S OFFICE, NAVY-YARD,  
NEW YORK, Feb. 10, 1870.

Hon. H. H. Starkweather, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 2d instant, in which you inform me that a bill has been introduced in the House by General Slocum for the removal of the Navy-yard at this place to New London, Conn., and request me to give my views on the subject, with such facts and arguments as, in my opinion, may bear upon it.

I have no hesitation in stating frankly the principal disadvantages of the site now occupied, and the causes which, in my opinion will ever render its conversion into a first-class dock-yard impracticable.

First and greatest among them is the limited water frontage, which is a constant source of annoyance and expense, and for years has been inadequate to the wants of the yard. It may have served for all the requirements of the Government when the station was in its infancy, and the Wallabout was a bay of some extent; but since the conversion of the latter into a small stream, yearly becoming less by the accumulation of deposits from the East River, and from two sewers which drain a large portion of Brooklyn and Williamsburgh, the space has been insufficient. The vessels, in consequence, are crowded at the docks, are more exposed to danger from fire, and are repaired at a much greater expense than they would be were there sufficient room to move them properly. The filling up of the channel by the deposits already spoken of entails upon the Government a yearly expense of from \$50,000 to \$100,000 for dredging, and the gases which arise from the emptying of the city sewers have a most destructive effect upon the copper of all the vessels exposed to their influence. So great indeed is the damage resulting therefrom, that the cost of simply replacing the copper destroyed by the action of these gases has become an item of considerable magnitude, and an expenditure of \$3,000 semi-annually, on each vessel lying in the Wallabout, is required from this cause alone. Another dry dock is greatly needed to expedite the Government work and increase the efficiency of the yard, but owing to the limited capacity of the latter its construction is almost if not quite impracticable.

In addition to these reasons, which, in my opinion, unfit the present site for a naval station, may be mentioned an objection which, did no others exist, would render a change of location most desirable—that is, its being in the heart of two large cities. Whatever may be the advantages possessed by such a location in respect to the facilities afforded for obtaining mechanics, they are, in my judgment, more than counterbalanced by concomitant evils. The danger from fire to which the public property is exposed, by reason of its being

surrounded, as it now is, and must necessarily be, in such a locality, by manufactories, lumber yards, etc., and above all, oil depots, is greatly increased, and the opportunities for the exercise of political influence in the employment of workmen, always injurious to the interests of the Government, are greatly augmented. Of course no location would be entirely exempt from the last-named objection, but it necessarily exists in a greater degree in the midst of political centres.

The removal of the present yard, or rather the establishment of another, for it would be impracticable to move the buildings, would be of course attended with great expense, and for a time would doubtless be detrimental to the interests of the Government; but in view of the greatly increasing worth of the present property, its valuable wharf privileges, and the price which it would probably bring if sold, I doubt if the change would cause any ultimate loss. The land and Government property in the yard is fully worth \$40,000,000, and not less than that price should be obtained for it. The disadvantages which I have pointed out as so prominent here, as a public establishment, would soon be removed when it became private property. An antagonism seems ever to exist between the corporations which have charge of great city interests, and Government establishments. This fact, I think, will be admitted by all who have had opportunities of judging in such cases. The sewers, now so destructive to the interests of the yard, would have their course changed at once, and would pass through Brooklyn to the East River as an outlet; streets would at once be cut through to the water front, and the entire section would be open to commerce, and the value of the property, as well beyond the yard as in its immediate neighborhood, would grow incalculably.

The Admiral closes with an expression of the views which he thinks should obtain in the establishment of a yard under the new auspices proposed.

Chief Engineer King, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, has also addressed a letter to Mr. Starkweather, a member of the Naval Committee of the House, recommending strongly the proposition for the removal of the Brooklyn Navy-yard. He says the yard at Brooklyn can be sold for \$40,000,000—a sum sufficient to build two such yards as the one now at Brooklyn.

#### NAVY GAZETTE.

##### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

###### ORDERED.

FEBRUARY 17.—Captains J. H. Strong, J. M. Frailley, and Lieutenant-Commander J. N. Miller, to Washington for examination for promotion.

Assistant Paymasters Fred C. Alley and J. Q. Barton, to Philadelphia for examination for promotion.

Third Assistant Engineer Thomas W. Fitch, to Boston for examination for promotion.

FEBRUARY 19.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward Hooker, as receiver and inspector of stores in Department of Yards and Docks at Navy-yard, New York.

Ensigns Andrew C. McMechan, G. Blocklinger, and Charles A. Adams, to the Pacific Fleet.

Acting Carpenter Henry R. Philbrick, to the *St. Marys*.

FEBRUARY 21.—Surgeon James McMaisters, to special duty at New York.

Gunner James Hayes, to duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

First Assistant Engineer Albert W. Morley, to duty at the Navy yard, New York.

###### DETACHED.

FEBRUARY 17.—Commander E. K. Owen, from the command of the *Seminole*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant E. S. Keyser; Masters E. T. Strong, W. H. Brice, and E. W. Watson; Assistant Surgeon F. K. Hartzell, Chief Engineer John H. Long, First Assistant Engineer Joseph Trilley, Second Assistant Engineers Charles H. Manning and J. A. B. Smith, and Boatswain John Hall, from the *Seminole*, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Jared Linsly, Jr., from the *Seminole*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Master Washburn Maynard, from the *Seminole*, and ordered to duty at the Naval Academy.

Commander Ralph Chandler, from the command of the *Tallapoosa* on the 30th of April next, and ordered to the New York Navy-yard.

Commander A. E. K. Benham, from the New York Navy-yard on the 2d of May next, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant C. A. Scheiky, from the *Saugus*, and placed on waiting orders.

Master Wm. H. Webb, from the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill., and ordered to the *Saugus*.

First Assistant Engineer P. A. Rearick, from the New York Navy-yard, and granted leave of absence.

First Assistant Engineer A. T. E. Mullan, and Second Assistant Engineer Wm. S. Wells, from the *Plymouth*, and placed on waiting orders.

FEBRUARY 18.—Lieutenant-Commander J. H. Sands, from the Observatory, and ordered to ordnance duty at the Navy-yard, Washington.

Master Josiah M. Wilson, from the *Musmee*, and waiting orders.

Ensign N. L. Roosevelt, from ordnance duty at New York, and ordered to the *Albatross*.

FEBRUARY 19.—Lieutenant-Commander A. T. Snell, from torpedo duty, and ordered to duty as executive officer of the *Ossipee*.

Lieutenant-Commander Wm. W. Macleay, from the Observatory, and ordered to the *St. Marys*.

FEBRUARY 21.—Ensign Thomas H. Stevens, from the *Nichigan*, and ordered to the *Colorado*.

###### APPOINTED.

FEBRUARY 18.—George W. Conover and William Carter, as acting carpenters in the Navy.

FEBRUARY 19.—George T. Douglass, an acting sailmaker in the Navy.

###### LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending February 19, 1870:

■ Elias M. Haviland, ship's corporal, February 12th, U. S. steamer *Nichigan*, at Erie, Pa.

Joseph M. Douglass, shipkeeper, February 7th, U. S. steamer *Dacotah*, at Mare Island, Cal.

THE standard height for recruits for infantry regiments of the line of the British army has been raised from 5 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 8 inches. All recruiting, whether at headquarters of corps or districts, is to be carried on at this standard, which applies to regiments stationed in India also.



## THE CASE OF FITZ-JOHN PORTER.

WE alluded last week to the fact that Fitz-John Porter, late major-general of Volunteers and commandant of the Fifth Army Corps of the Army of the Potomac, has applied to the President for a rehearing of his case, chiefly on the ground that new evidence, not attainable at the time of his trial, has come to light, which, he claims, changes the aspect of the case. From one who has carefully examined the record of the proceedings of the Court, General Porter's appeal to the President, the rejoinders of General Pope, and the final statement of General Porter, we receive the following summing up of the case:

The first accusation against General Porter was, that he disobeyed an order received from General Pope, at Warrenton Station, directing him to march his command at one o'clock that night to Bristoe's Station, a distance of about ten miles, so as to reach his destination by daylight.

The evidence shows that his command had reached Warrenton Station at a late hour, very much fatigued by a long and difficult march; that the middle and latter part of the night was very dark; and that the road was very much obstructed by wagon trains in considerable confusion.

It also shows that four of the general officers of the corps, the only ones whose evidence on that point is adduced, were at the time decidedly of the opinion that the spirit and purpose of the order would be best carried out by delaying the march until near daylight, because the troops would have their night's rest, and would make their march with more rapidity and fewer delays, and arrive at Bristoe's in condition for immediate action.

The result showed that literal compliance with the order was impracticable, and that no time of appreciable importance would have been gained by moving out at one o'clock.

It is also to be remembered that there proved to be no necessity for the troops going into action at Bristoe's, and that they remained there until the next morning.

I fully coincide with the opinion expressed by Dr. Guernsey in his paper on the subject, that "this charge would never have been brought except as a make-weight to the far more serious accusations arising from the transactions of the next day."

The next accusation is that Porter disobeyed the following order addressed to him and to General McDowell:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF VIRGINIA, }  
CENTREVILLE, August 29, 1862. }

Generals McDowell and Porter.

You will please move forward with your joint commands toward Gainesville. I sent General Porter written orders to that effect an hour and a half ago. Heintzelman, Sigel, and Reno are moving on Warrenton turnpike, and must now be not far from Gainesville. I desire that as soon as communication is established between this force and your own, the whole command shall halt. It may be necessary to fall back behind Bull Run, at Centreville, to-night. I presume it will be so on account of our supplies.

I have sent no orders of any description to Ricketts, and none to interfere in any way with the movements of McDowell's troops, except what I sent by his aide-de-camp last night, which were to hold his position on the Warrenton pike until the troops from here should fall on the enemy's flank and rear. I do not even know Ricketts's position, as I have not been able to find out where General McDowell was until a late hour this morning. General McDowell will take immediate steps to communicate with General Ricketts, and instruct him to join the other divisions of his corps as soon as practicable. If any considerable advantages are to be gained by departing from this order, it will not be strictly carried out. One thing must be held in view, that the troops must occupy a position from which they can reach Bull Run to-night or by morning. The indications are that the whole force of the enemy is moving in this direction at a pace that will bring them here by to-morrow night or the next day. My own headquarters will for the present be with Heintzelman's corps, or at this place.

JOHN POPE, Major-General Commanding.

A careful examination of this order shows that General Pope intended to form his army in front of, or near, Gainesville, and that he anticipated the necessity of falling back during the night behind Bull Run.

The object of this advance is not clear, but it may be assumed that it was for the purpose of covering his preparations for holding a final position behind Bull Run.

McDowell and Porter are merely ordered to advance toward Gainesville far enough to communicate with the rest of the army, and there to halt; on no account are they to advance so far that they cannot reach Bull Run by the next morning at furthest; they are also authorized to deviate from the strict tenor of this order, should they deem it advantageous to do so. It is clear that the order does not contemplate any offensive combat, further than, by implication, such as might be necessary to effect the communication required.

The record shows that the troops under Heintzelman, Sigel, and Reno, instead of being near Gainesville, were really at Groveton, about four miles distant. The record also shows that Porter moved toward Gainesville until he came in contact with the enemy, and the rear of his column had passed the length of a brigade beyond the last cross road communicating with the troops under General Pope; here he halted and came into position. Had he continued to advance, he would have been further from a communication with the troops under General Pope, and would have disobeyed that part of the order requiring him to halt when the communication was established.

General McDowell, equally bound by the joint order, availed himself of the discretion allowed by its terms,

and moved from the Gainesville road toward Groveton, which is a clear proof that he did not understand the order as requiring an attack on the Gainesville road. For it is evident that if, under the joint order, it was proper and desirable to attack on the Gainesville road, it should have been done by the combined forces of Generals McDowell and Porter; every reason that can be given to show that Porter should have attacked, applies with redoubled force to the joint commanders.

If it were right to attack by the Gainesville road, then General McDowell's march toward Groveton was not unlike the celebrated march of d'Erlon's corps from Quatre Bras toward Ligny. It would appear that General McDowell regarded it as necessary for Porter to remain in observation on the Gainesville road; otherwise he would, by virtue of his seniority in rank, have taken him with him toward Groveton. The record shows no disapprobation of General McDowell's actions on the part of General Pope; it therefore follows that, so far as the joint order was concerned, General Porter was entitled to the same immunity. Let it be distinctly understood that I am not disputing the propriety of General McDowell's movements on the 29th, but merely desire to show that justice requires that Porter's conduct should be viewed in the same light as his. This is the proper place to introduce the subject of an important part of the new evidence which General Porter declares himself ready to produce, and which is indicated in the letters of Generals Longstreet, Wilcox, and others. The orders given by General Pope on the 29th were based upon the supposition that Longstreet was still at some distance from the field, and that he would not arrive before the night of the 30th or the next day. General Porter, on the contrary, was convinced by the information brought to him and by his own observations made when he came in contact with the enemy, that Longstreet had reached the field, and that he had a superior force opposed to him.

The letters referred to state that Longstreet's command commenced arriving on the field at 9 A. M., that he was ready to receive any attack after 11, and that he was particularly anxious to bring on the battle after 12 M., before which time Porter could not well have attacked.

I now pass on to the third and most important charge, which was that he in all respects failed to obey the following order, viz:

HEADQUARTERS IN THE FIELD, }  
August 29, 1862—4:30 P. M. }

Major-General Porter.

Your line of march brings you in on the enemy's right flank. I desire you to push forward into action at once on the enemy's flank, and if possible on his rear, keeping your right in communication with General Reynolds. The enemy is massed in the woods, in front of us, but can be shelled out as soon as you engage their flank. Keep heavy reserves and use your batteries, keeping well closed to your right all the time. In case you are obliged to fall back, do so to your right and rear, so as to keep you in close communication with the right wing.

JOHN POPE, Major-General Commanding.

The evidence given on the trial shows very clearly that this order was not delivered to General Porter until about 6:30 P. M., about sunset; that the preparations to carry it into execution could not have been completed in season to make the attack before dark, and that the nature of the ground was such as to make a night attack impracticable. The additional evidence already referred to shows that an attack at any time after 12 M., by Porter's corps alone, must have resulted very unfavorably, and that the mere fact of his presence on the Gainesville road kept a largely inferior force of the enemy in his front, and diverted them from supporting Jackson.

The results of my examination may be thus briefly summed up:

1st. That he carried out the requirements of the order of 6:30 P. M. of August 27th as any competent commander would have done, and that no other wise course was open to him.

2d. That he did obey the joint order of August 29th.

3d. That in his failure to obey the order of 4:30 P. M. of August 29th, he was fully justified by the circumstances, and could not properly have acted otherwise.

4th. That General Porter is entitled to the benefit of the new and confirmatory evidence which he is prepared to produce.

We have referred to this subject not so much from any feeling of interest in General Porter as an individual, as from a conviction that our national character and the honor of our Army are deeply concerned.

We would hail with delight the removal of the stigma which his conviction fixed upon both; for we are of those who are loath to believe that any American soldier could wilfully be guilty of such misconduct as that with which General Porter was charged, and for which he received a sentence none too severe if he was guilty, but terrible beyond expression if he was innocent.

It has been said that there is no precedent under which the case can be brought for a rehearing; but to that the reply is that the case itself is without a precedent, and that new means must be found to meet the new case.

The long military career, the gallant services, and high previous reputation of General Porter make his case a very peculiar one.

If injustice has been done to him, however unwittingly, the national honor requires that the dreadful stigma under which he labors should be removed at any cost. If a new and impartial examination shows that he has merited what he has received, then he must abide the consequences.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should invariably be addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

TO AN M. C.

"Going back" on the brevets  
Of these graceless Army pets,  
In requital,  
Will, or not, your corps unstable,  
With the act, drop "honorable"  
As their title?

JOB BAGNET.

M. C. TO V. R. C.

We'd forgive you half your pay,  
But for one thing every way  
Past forgiving;  
Why dared you, 'mid the wars,  
After gaining all those scars,  
Come back living?

J. B.

## WE DESCEND INTO THE KITCHEN.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Our bachelor mess is in trouble. The cook deserted and leaped into the matrimonial gulf at only an hour's notice. It has been impossible thus far to procure another. So Smith and myself have actually descended to the details of life in the culinary department. Of course pride made it necessary that we should attempt even an improvement on the past bills of fare, and we went to work with high hopes and spotless wristbands. The company cook agreed to teach Smith (we of course already knew) the nomenclature of the cooking utensils, so that he might not confound a meat pan with a toasting-fork. As for us, we confounded them all *en masse*. The cook also strongly recommended us to purchase a cook-book, and spoke in flattering terms of Mrs. Webster's attempt in that line of literature; but this idea was scouted as absurd. Were we, who had heard the inspired lectures of Monsieur Blot, to pay heed to the directions of a woman on such a theme? First we found our larder empty, and there was an exercise of deep thought necessary in order to determine what was necessary. Smith, with visions of a first-class restaurant, with its gilt-edged bill of fare and its irreproachable waiters, spoke of green turtle soup, a pair of trout, a boiled leg of mutton, and a couple of stuffed chickens. We threw up our hands and cast a reproachful look from our eyes, after the manner of Archbishop Laud before he was beheaded, and entered our solemn protest against such an elaborate attempt; we argued that we were novices, that we neither expected to receive Prince Arthur nor the Peabody escort, and gently pleaded for plain roast beef and vegetables. But our opponent rose, after the style of Daniel Webster in his reply to Haynes, or Cicero in his oration against Catiline, and spoke in cutting sarcasm of the mind that did not soar above beef; then, in a flowery manner, which could almost convince one that he was wandering through perfumed gardens or treading daisied fields, which suggested thoughts of new-mown hay and violets, he described, not a "dinner of herbs," but of those dainties which he had selected. He ceased; there was for a while profound silence, and, as the newspapers say, "not a dry eye in the house." With politic motives, we waited until this undue emotion had somewhat subsided, and then, in what must have been an eloquent manner, we spoke of another argument, the necessity of economy—retrenchment; we mentioned the probable reduction of pay, at which there was a deep groan; the duty of the hour, which was to regard the national debt as a sacred and costly inheritance; we mentioned instances where the French soldiers had lived on rats, and, in a thrilling peroration and deep voice, said, "And, gentlemen, if these gallant sons of La Belle France can live on rats, cannot we 'fight it out on this line'?" Some profane fellow said he preferred "tender-line," and the silence was ominous. The majority evidently favored our opponent's proposition; dinner was to be a "feast fit for the gods," and some of them, scenting the savor, would doubtless descend from Olympus in full dress; so Smith said.

That fatal morning a market wagon stopped at our door. The driver in rich Milesian brogue said that he had "a loive grane turtle, some fish, a paze of shape," and—what was it he said besides?—"a pair of hins." We took up the line of march for the wagon, with several orderlies in tow.

"This is a foine turtle, sir—very lively, sir," said the Fanian driver. The animal was lifted out by a soldier, and deposited, not as before on his back, but upon his proper all-fours, at which, finding himself all right, Monsieur Turtle started off, and was far on his way to liberty in the brook before we noticed him. And then there was a chase, in which all the ingenious flank movements known in the military art were practised. Cornered finally, the "baste" showed fight; and the incautious orderly was in a moment crying out, "Howly Moses, he has my fingers, sir." And so it was; the poor fellow's digits were as fast as though held in a vice. A blow on its head (the turtle's, not the orderly's) made it let go at last, and we returned to the wagon, and thence to the kitchen. The clock pointed to an hour three or four hours in advance of dinner. The turtle was yet to be dissected, the fish prepared, and the chickens not only put to death but plucked. We confess to have sighed heavily. Relative to dissecting the turtle, we had when a boy attended a course of lectures on surgery, and thought of procuring the post surgeon's case of instruments. (We knew, to be sure, that they had only last week been used on a poor fellow who was poisoned.) This seemed the most feasible plan, provided we could persuade the surgeon that it would



not be a profanation of his horrible knives and saws. Suffice it to say that the turtle was cut up, and that we delivered a lecture on bones and tissues during the operation.

Next came the fish. There arose a dispute, Smith declaring his preference for it broiled. An old razor was called into play as a means of removing the scales, and our second course was ready for the fire. Then came the boiled mutton, and then—as Æneas said to Dido, “it grieves me to relate this misfortune”—then came the chickens. A good deal of fowl play must take place. We drew straws as to who should personally superintend the slaughter of the innocents. The lot fell to the gallant son of New York. He argued that he didn’t know how to bring their young lives to an untimely end. Some one said that where he came from, chickens’ heads were guillotined. Another man, who has been reading a book called “The Customs of the Ancients,” remarked that the Jews were in the habit of strangling fowls. Smith suggested that a platoon of men be drawn up and there be a public execution. “Shot to death by musketry” should be the decree, but where, oh! where would be the chickens? The chickens died, however, not like the victims of the French Revolution, nor yet like the fair Desdemona, nor did they fall like the brave Maximilian; but the last we saw of them in life, they were describing revolutions in the air involuntarily, and held by the neck in the brawny grasp of a Teutonic private of the United States Army. We were at last ready to call into request the agency of fire and a Charter Oak cooking stove. The scene at this juncture must have been amusing to all but the principal actors. You could not have distinguished the two gentlemen arrayed in white aprons from professional cooks, except by a little unprofessional awkwardness in the handling of skillets. It was not long until we rested under the unhappy delusion that our labors were over, and adjourned to our respective quarters, leaving an orderly on guard with instructions to report progress. We were lying upon our lounge, when there came “a gentle tapping, as of some one gently rapping” at our door. It was the orderly with a stiff salute and these ominous words, “Plaze, sir, thim thurtle soup be’s burnin’.” We rushed down. It was most sadly true; an odor arose which bade fair not to tempt the gods from Olympus, but to drive any mortal from the kitchen. The kettle was removed. Alas! our turtle soup was among those things which we think of when we say,

“Of all sad words e’er wrote by pen,  
The saddest of all, it might have been,”

or words to that effect. With an almost apparently bursting heart, Smith stood sadly looking down upon the ruins of a princely dish, like Æneas among the streets of burning Troy, or like that other old Roman whose name we’ve forgotten among those other old ruins. This grief over, we opened our oven and disclosed the chickens scarcely warmed through, for our damper had been left open, and with a quick fire everything upon the stove had been burned, while the contents of the oven were not put under the fire’s influence at all. We relieved the damper to our spirits by closing it in the stove. The representative from New York attempted the task of replenishing the fire and blistered his fingers; and he now goes mournfully around with a bandage of fine linen and a poultice of simple cerate about the wounded member. By this time the hour for dinner had passed and murmurs from the outsiders were heard.

The emergency called for a council of war. It was held, and it was determined to cut the fowls in twain. They were removed from the oven, and with a dull knife and a sabre we attempted it.

One of the chickens was mutinously tough, and the determination expressed upon the carver’s face would have done justice to the countenance of G. Washington signing the Declaration of Independence, or Elizabeth signing the death warrant of the lovely Queen of Scotland. At last the work was done, though we told New York that if he ever left the service he would not want for employment, for he was the most perfect hack-man imaginable. A grim smile which told of inward sorrow crossed his benign face. This was the last of our misfortunes, and shortly after, with flushed and heated brows, we sat down with the air of suffering saints, but with hearty appetites. Resolutions of thanks were passed for us, and it was a touching sight to see our wounded aid rise, with his arm in a sling made of his sash, and respond to the toasts given us. He stated that during the past “wicked Rebellion” he had perilled his all upon his country’s altar, but it had been reserved for him at its close to receive the first wound (here he pointed to his wounded arm), and not for all the wealth in the Treasury would he again consent to act in the capacity of an under-cook. Smith then made a speech in which he spoke feelingly of the province of women, their being very often ministering angels, and not unfrequently good cooks, and wound up with an invective against the man who had deprived the mess of the amiable female who had left us.

The closing speech fell to us. We thanked the mess for its forbearance, deprecated the unhappy necessity which had caused such grief, and announced that another cook had been engaged, at which everybody cried “Here! Here!”

February 13, 1870.

CATUS.

A BILL has been introduced in the House providing that the body of any one who served as an officer or a soldier of any of the armies of the United States during the war for the suppression of the rebellion, and was honorably discharged from such service, who may hereafter die, may be buried, or any member of the family of such officer or soldier may be buried in any one of the national cemeteries established by act of Congress, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of War: *Provided*, That this act shall not be so construed as to authorize any additional expense therefor on the part of the Government of the United States.

## FACTS FOR THE HISTORY OF THE GREAT REBELLION.

### I.

#### THE SECOND BULL RUN.

THE historian of our late civil war is not yet born. It appears to be one of the results of human weakness that no man can truly and faithfully write the history of his own time; more especially when in attempting it he is called upon to describe such scenes as for four years afflicted our country in her struggle for self-preservation.

It seems to be requisite to a full and impartial history that the passions of the hour which animated the actors in great scenes should be, like the hearts which felt their influences, stilled in death.

Many contemporaries have tried their hands at our civil war, as has been the case in former ages, but their so-called histories will not be known as such hereafter, but will serve simply as landmarks for some future Hume or Macaulay to write a real history of the war, and the causes which gave rise to it, enabling him to select the wheat from the chaff, by pointing out not only the prominent facts to be noted, but also those to be left untold as the product of either the partiality, passions, or prejudices of the contemporary writer.

Contemporaneous histories, if we may give them the name, are therefore not necessarily useless to the future compiler, nor is it to be expected that they will tell everything which ought to be told, any more than accuracy and fullness are to be looked for in everything which is told.

Our object, then, in writing is not to attempt to correct history, but simply as one of the actors in the scenes of the times to furnish one of those links which will enable the future historian to construct the true and unbroken chain of events. If it be objected that our link does not fit the one next to it, the reply is, let others furnish their links, thus enabling, by a free discussion among living actors, some future artist to fit the links together in their proper order.

Among those who have written upon the war of the Rebellion, there is probably none whose reputation as an honest, faithful, and unprejudiced writer stands higher than Mr. William Swinton’s. In looking over his “Campaigns of the Army of the Potomac,” we find, on page 181, the following:

“And it was late in the afternoon when McDowell, with one division of his whole command (King’s), regained the Warrenton turnpike and headed toward Centreville. Now Jackson, as already seen, had taken position on the north side of the turnpike, near Groveton, so that on the approach of King’s column it unwittingly presented a flank to Jackson, who assailed it furiously. Jackson attacked with two divisions (the Stonewall division, then under General Taliaferro, and Ewell’s division), while the fight was sustained on the Union side by King’s division alone. The behavior of his troops was exceedingly creditable, and they maintained their ground with what Jackson styles ‘obstinate determination.’”

The circumstances attending this conflict are accurately stated, and with no desire for unfriendly criticism we simply wish to add to the information and explain certain facts in regard to it, and the two days’ subsequent struggle which terminated so disastrously to our arms.

In the first place, General McDowell was not with King’s division when it “regained the Warrenton turnpike,” nor at any time after that on that day (28th Aug., 1862). The leading brigade (Hatch’s) made, late in the afternoon, a reconnaissance on the left of the Warrenton pike, and at a point near which the enemy had, during that day, planted some guns, which were used against Reynolds’s division, killing and wounding some of his men. The brigade was deployed at this point on quite a prominent hill, where the movement of the men was in full sight of the rest of the division, and as soon as it passed over the brow of the hill in the direction of Groveton, the next brigade (Gibbons’s) took up the line of march along the pike with the intention of closing up on Hatch’s. The country in our front, except a few cleared fields, and on our right, was thickly covered with timber. Passing through a belt of this, which crossed the road, the head of Gibbons’s column emerged into an open space beyond. Hatch’s brigade had disappeared to the front, and was hidden by timber. Doubleday’s brigade followed Gibbons’s, and Patrick’s brought up the rear of the division. As the head of Gibbons’s brigade entered the open ground, some few horsemen appeared in the edge of a wood some 1,500 or 1,800 yards to the left of the pike (north of it). This turned out to be a battery of artillery, and instantly opened fire upon our troops. A battery was at once put in position to reply to it, the troops lying down in the road. The attack was a complete surprise, but except with artillery Jackson made no other upon the division. On the contrary, the “furious assault” was made by our own troops, was sustained by less than one-half of King’s division, and occurred in this way:

The writer was with Gibbons’s brigade, and shortly after the commencement of the artillery duel the sound of a gun, some distance to our left and rear, was heard, being used evidently against the rear brigade (Patrick’s). Another and another followed in rapid succession. The Second Wisconsin was immediately started in line of battle in that direction, the men instructed to move quietly and rapidly to the sound of the firing, and impressed with the idea that with due celerity and silence the capture of the enemy’s battery was possible. These orders were rapidly obeyed, the regiment moved through the strip of woods in which it was lying, emerged into the open ground beyond, and marched up the slope of the very hill upon which, a short time before, Hatch’s command had been deployed in reconnaissance. No sooner did it reach the top of the slope than it was opened upon by some skirmishers lying in the grass. These it soon swept out of the way, and moved rapidly forward toward the battery, the guns of which at once ceased firing and moved off to another position. Still the regiment pushed ahead, and soon after, on the very

top of the hill, came in view of the enemy’s line of battle, and a long and continuous roll of musketry opened on both sides. Upon this evidence of the presence of a formidable force of the enemy (the first evidence we had had), the other three regiments of the brigade (Sixth and Seventh Wisconsin and Nineteenth Indiana) were ordered up to the support of the Second, and the whole line was soon engaged in a “furious assault” against Jackson’s troops, which contented themselves with replying to the fire. A constant roll of musketry was kept up until after dark, each line maintaining substantially its position. Repeated calls were made for assistance both on the division commander and on the two brigades in the vicinity. The regiments of the nearest brigade (Doubleday’s) were sent in successively, and some of them lost heavily; but by that time darkness had come on, and the enemy’s line outflanking ours on the left, that end of the line was withdrawn, and the firing gradually ceased. It will thus be seen that this action was fought on our side with less than one-half of King’s division; that we were the attacking party; that the engagement was brought on in an attempt to capture a battery which was firing upon the rear brigade of the division, and that that brigade did not join in the fight, although within plain sight and hearing of it. The leading brigade (Hatch’s), as soon as the firing was heard, turned about and marched back toward the firing, but arrived on the ground too late to participate in it.

It seems scarcely credible that the enemy could have had two whole divisions actively engaged, as stated by Mr. Swinton, although there is no doubt the divisions were in the immediate vicinity, and, in fact, some few prisoners picked up after the fighting was over, among them the captain of a Georgia regiment, reported Jackson’s whole force as in our front. The principal part of the fighting was probably done on the enemy’s side by Ewell’s division, the commander of which lost his leg in the action. Well might Jackson say that our troops stood their ground with “obstinate determination.” The Wisconsin brigade alone, about 1,800 strong, lost one-third of its number in killed and wounded, in the short space of about one hour and a half.

The importance of the contest will be seen when the fact is stated that on the next day the very spot which was the scene of this conflict was occupied by the enemy; that there the right of Jackson’s line rested and was joined to the left of Longstreet’s; and that on that hill were concentrated the batteries which on the day of the great battle (30th August) poured destruction into our ranks.

“Unfortunately, during the night, King withdrew his command to Manassas, leaving the Warrenton turnpike available for Jackson to retire or Longstreet to advance.” (Swinton, page 182.)

As soon as darkness and silence had closed over the scene of action, a consultation was held among the commanders, and the first and all-important question which came up was what was to be done. The highest officer present was the division commander. He did not know where the next commander, General McDowell, was, nor was it known where the nearest troops were located, nor upon whom we could rely for support in the morning. It thus appeared that the division was isolated from all other troops, in the presence of Jackson’s whole force, having no one of higher authority with whom to communicate, report to, or obtain assistance from, and it was not generally known until long afterward that the gallant General John F. Reynolds had appeared personally upon the field during the fight, and after it was over promised to have his division, which was not far distant, alongside of us by daylight in the morning, ready to resist the enemy. Our orders were to march along the pike in the direction of Centreville, but to do that now was to march away from the enemy, and to attempt at night what we had failed to do in daylight, with the additional danger of running either into the enemy or perhaps into our own troops. It was, therefore, decided to fall back in the direction of Manassas Junction, with the hope of meeting on the road troops coming to our support. A staff officer of General McDowell’s being present, volunteered to carry this decision to McDowell, and thus “unfortunately” King withdrew his command to Manassas, leaving the turnpike at 2 o’clock in the morning. We met no troops on the road to Manassas, marched all night, and just as day was breaking reached the Junction.

On reflecting upon this action and its grave consequences, one is tempted to inquire how it happened that on the extreme flank of our Army we had no cavalry out, nor even a line of flankers or skirmishers to warn us of the enemy’s presence, and this, too, when only a few hours before the enemy had made his appearance on that flank and actually fired on our troops. This is one of those links in the history which we cannot supply, but perhaps somebody else can, and it is to be hoped will.

A JOINT resolution has been introduced in the Senate to authorize the President of the United States to restore to the active list of the Medical Department of the Army Chief Medical Purveyor Richard S. Satterlee, and Assistant Medical Purveyor Charles McDougall, who were retired by order of the President on the 23d of February, 1869, and whose places have not been filled: *Provided*, That he is of opinion that these officers are capable of performing the duties of their offices, and that the public interest will be promoted by the restoration of these officers to the active list.

A RESOLUTION has passed the House of Representatives by which the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to deliver to Professor A. E. Church, treasurer of the Battle Monument Committee, fifty bronze guns captured from the rebels, to be used in the construction of a monument at West Point, New York, in memory of the officers and soldiers of the Regular Army who fell in the late war, and in the ornamentation of the grounds around said monument.



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A CAPTAIN OF CAVALRY DESIRES TO TRANSFER with a Captain of Artillery; liberal inducements offered to any one willing to exchange. Address CAVALRY, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, giving full name and address.

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A NY FIRST LIEUTENANT OF ARTILLERY OR Cavalry who would like to transfer with a First Lieutenant of Infantry, and take the chances of going out under Wilson's bill, (satisfactory inducements also offered), can address SUPP, care of ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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ADMIRAL D. G. FARRAGUT has lately written the following letters. As they do justice to Captain J. H. Strong and place on record at the Navy Department his gallant action in the naval battle in Mobile Bay, we publish them with much pleasure:

NEW YORK, January 11, 1870.

Captain James H. Strong, U. S. N., Navy-yard, Brooklyn.

DEAR CAPTAIN: After mature deliberation and a careful investigation of certain statements, I have come to the conclusion that the diagram of the Mobile Bay fight, which has always been in my possession, gives a correct view of your first encounter with the ram *Tennessee*, and that you were not given full justice for your prompt obedience to the general order, by ramming that iron-clad when she attempted to run down the *Lackawanna*.

I have delayed this official statement until I saw that the Secretary of the Navy had suggested the establishment of a board for reconsidering the subject of promotions, and I have therefore deemed it my duty as well as pleasure to forward to the Department the statement, a copy of which is herewith enclosed.

Should this board meet, I shall, at the proper time, call attention to the facts in the case. Hoping that this evidence may soon realize to you all that you naturally and justly desire in your profession, I remain very truly yours,

D. G. FARRAGUT, Admiral U. S. N.

NEW YORK, January 10, 1870.

Hon. Geo. M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy.

SIR: I have the honor to state that, owing to the great discrepancy of opinion among the officers of my squadron, and the misapprehension of certain facts, it appears that Captain Strong, who commanded the *Monongahela* in the battle of Mobile Bay, did not receive that notice for his promptness and gallantry in ramming the rebel iron-clad *Tennessee*, in obedience to the general order, to which he was entitled.This order required that, if the *Tennessees* attempted to ram any vessel in our line, the vessel next astern should ram her, which, as it now appears, was done most promptly by Captain Strong. My flag-ship, the *Hartford*, was so far ahead at the time, nearly one mile in advance of the other vessels, that I could not possibly see his action; and the reason why I have not made this statement before is, as stated above, that there was such a difference of opinion among the officers of my fleet as to whether the *Monongahela* struck the ram or not, some even denying it positively, and my own fleet captain among the number, that I have ever since hesitated to make it official until positively assured of the facts.

I am now perfectly satisfied that, as my original diagram (made by a disinterested looker-on) shows, Captain Strong did perform his duty in the manner above specified, and should therefore receive credit for being the first who, with a wooden ship, rammed an iron-clad, by which operation his own vessel was cut through about five feet of solid timber by the knuckle of the latter.

I therefore desire to place this fact on record to the credit of that officer, particularly as he was the first to strike the ram in the final encounter, so that, if any, promotions should be made, he may have the full benefit of my evidence in his favor.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. G. FARRAGUT, Admiral U. S. N.

We are glad to hear that Major Boynton proposes to issue a revised edition of his "History of West Point," first published in 1863. The new edition is to be embellished with new maps and illustrations, and will be issued in time for the summer vacation at West Point. We hope that Major Boynton will derive profit enough from this edition of his work to make him a millionaire. It is to be issued at a reduced price to secure a larger sale for it.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1870.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly, in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer retype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post-Office money order, United States funds, or Quartermasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. &amp; F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

SUCH a meeting as that held at the Cooper Union in New York on Monday last, to urge the establishment of a home for our disabled soldiers, is an evidence that the recollections and enthusiasm of the war have not wholly passed away. There are many indications that those misrepresent public sentiment who urge upon Congress legislation in opposition to the interests of the Army, or who fail to take account of what is due to its priceless services. Whatever course professional economists may take, we are sure that the people of this country have not so soon forgotten what they owe to that body of professional soldiers whose skill gave direction and force to the warlike patriotism which swept away the Rebellion. Four years of war taught them to respect that devotion to professional principle which may have tempered and regulated the patriotic enthusiasm of the Regular Army, but which did not make that enthusiasm any the less effective. They have learned that the patriotism which burns with a steady glow through a lifetime of professional service is not less reliable, because less demonstrative than with those to whom the service of country is but an episode in a career devoted to other interests.

Speaking for our veterans, Mr. BEECHER, at the Cooper Union, said: "What is there in Wall street they have not made secure with their blood? What is there in the arts they did not save by their heroic valor? What is there in our harvests that they have not a right to tithe? Was it not they who made it possible to raise those harvests? We are not, therefore, at liberty to call that charity which they have so nobly earned—earned by their steadfastness to principle and faithfulness to this nation. [Applause.] They have indeed earned the right to ease for the rest of their days. When I look back at those dreary days, I feel quite ashamed to see how poorly we have fulfilled our promise to these men. When they started for the war, what expressions of admiration we poured upon them. I said I should never forget those men that perilled their lives, and I never will. I shall look upon them as brothers, and call them part of my own family, though they may not bear my name." In thus speaking, Mr. BEECHER represents a feeling which we are confident has not yet wholly given place to the colder maxims of prudence and economy. Undoubtedly these should be considered, but only so far as they do not chill more generous and noble instincts. We hope that our members of Congress will not become so wholly absorbed in the details of "practical legislation" as to lose sight of those sentiments which, quickened into activity by the war, have given new life to the nation. It is always easy to introduce bills into Congress for discussion, but their passage is another matter; and we doubt whether Congress will finally adopt any measure seriously affecting the status of any large number of Army officers.

THE investigation into the disgraceful business of the sale of cadetships has resulted in the conviction of one Congressman, B. F. WHITEMORE of South Carolina, whose expulsion the Committee recommended. He gained time, however, and the assistance of the Hon. B. F. BUTLER as counsel, and sent in his resignation. The House laid the resolution for expulsion on the table, and by a unanimous vote passed a strong one of censure.

The Military Committee have facts that inculpate other Congressmen—in fact, they have stirred up a foul mess. Meanwhile Mr. SPENCER has introduced in the Senate resolutions instructing the Military and Naval Committees to inquire into the expediency of abolishing the Annapolis and West Point Academies. There is no probability that so wild a project will receive the favor of those committees. The hope is, we are told, that the investigation will result in the adoption of measures to prevent the future sale of cadet appointments, which will certainly be a very happy result. Mr. SPENCER's resolutions, we may add, after abolishing the two great institutions, provide for the substitution, by assignments to duty in various colleges throughout the Union, of naval and military officers as instructors in navigation, naval warfare, and military tactics, or the inauguration of "some other system calculated to relieve the Government of a large expense, and enable all who desire it to secure an education for the Army or Navy at their own expense."

A DECISION recently rendered in the United States Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York, in the case of Morgan v. Van Dyck, is of the greatest importance to disbursing officers, as it relieves them of one great risk to which they have hitherto been subject in taking charge of public funds. An action was brought to recover the balance due an assistant quartermaster of funds deposited with the Assistant Treasurer. The defendant claimed that the funds had been withdrawn by the payment of plaintiff's checks; while the plaintiff claimed and proved that some of the checks paid were forgeries of his signature, and that the amount of other checks of genuine signature had been altered. On this, issue was joined, and the case brought to trial in December before Judge BLATCHFORD, who has just rendered his decision, which we reprint from the *Internal Revenue Record* of February 5th. In reversal of what has hitherto been received as law in the State courts, Judge BLATCHFORD holds "that if a disbursing officer shows that he has, in compliance with the law and the regulations, deposited them (the funds) with a designated depository, and that he has not withdrawn them from the custody of such depository, he does account for them. To an action brought against him by the United States for such moneys, it is a complete defence for him to show such a state of facts." We may add that the person accused of the forgeries and alterations of checks which give rise to this suit was arrested, and lay in prison one year awaiting trial. When arraigned, he pleaded guilty to one indictment out of several found against him, and was sentenced by Judge BLATCHFORD to one year's imprisonment.

WE referred briefly last week to the trial at Fort Monroe of the projectile of Mr. HILL, the performance of which has been glowingly described by some of the daily papers. If the projectile had accomplished all that was claimed for it, we do not well see what great advantage we should derive from its adoption. As a matter of fact it is not a success. The projectile presented for trial by Mr. HILL was a hollow projectile of 6.4 in. caliber, containing an interior spherical solid projectile weighing 5 lbs.—the whole (exterior and interior) weighing 87 to 88 lbs. The external appearance of the projectile was almost precisely similar to that of the usual Parrott 100-pounder shell. At the apex, instead of the ordinary fuse-hole, there is a hole of about two and a half inches diameter, fitted with a brass plug in two equal parts. On the side of the exterior projectile, a little below its medial line, there is a fuse-hole, which, in the present experiments, was fitted with the ordinary naval fuse. To load the projectile, the fuse was first inserted, the plug at the apex was removed, the interior projectile dropped into the cavity of the exterior one, and a wad of oakum rammed on top of it. One pound of rifle-powder was then poured in as a bursting charge, and another wad of oakum was rammed on top of this charge; the brass plug was jammed into place, and the projectile was then ready for the gun. The gun, a 100-pound Parrott, was loaded in the usual manner, and with the ordinary service charge.



Nine of these projectiles were fired. The fuse was always of 5 seconds time, but the elevation of the gun was altered from 10 deg. to 20 deg. The results were variable, but were uniform in their unreliability. The fuse failed to ignite in almost every instance, the projectile only bursting in several cases on impact with the water. The plug at the apex of the projectile, which was designed to remain in position until the ignition of the bursting charge drove it out with the forward movement of the interior projectile, was generally thrown out by the action of the centrifugal force at a distance of only 300 or 400 yards from the gun. In several cases the interior projectile was also thrown out by the same cause and at the same time, or very soon afterwards. In the few instances when the fuse ignited, and the exterior projectile burst, as designed, the additional range given to the interior projectile was almost inappreciable, and was never in the same plane as that which contained the exterior projectile. The experiment was therefore a dead failure. The fallacy of Mr. HILL's principle (even if he can truly and practically develop it) consists obviously in the comparatively small size and weight of the interior projectile, which is, after all, the only effective part of the whole. A 5-pound ball for a 100-pounder, and a (say) 20-pound ball for a 12-inch rifle!

As the vexed question of the relative rank of line and staff is still under discussion, we publish the annexed table, showing how the relative rank in each grade is arranged at this time in the English navy. It is taken from the Navy List of July last, and shows the proportion of line officers and medical officers of that service on the active list. It may help the Houses of Congress to assign the proper proportion of line and medical officers to our Navy:

Order of Rank.	ARMY.	NAVY LINE.	MEDICAL OFFICERS.
1.	Field Marshals.*	3. Admirals of the Fleet.	No.
2.	Generals.*	20. Admirals.	
3.	Lieut.-Generals.*	24. Vice-Admirals.	5. Inspectors-General of Hospitals and Fleets, after 3 years' service on full pay as such—next after Rear-Admirals.
4.	Major-Generals.*	48. Rear-Admirals.	
5.			
6.	Brig.-Generals.*	Captains of Fleet.	3. Inspectors-General of Hospitals and Fleets, under 3 years.
7.	"	Commodores of 1st and 2d class.	
8.	Colonels.	242. Captains over 3 years.	37. Deputy Inspectors-General of Hospitals and Fleets, after 5 years' service on full pay as such.
9.	Colonels, according to the date of the completion of service stated.		6. Deputy Inspectors-General of Hospitals and Fleets, under 5 years' service on full pay as such.
10.	Lieut.-Colonels, according to date of commission.	51. Captains under 3 years.	90. Staff Surgeons.
11.	Lieut.-Colonels, but junior of the rank.	402. Commanders.	
12.	Majors.*	258. Lieutenants of 8 years' standing.	145. Assistant Surgeons, after 6 years' service on full pay as such.
13.	Captains.*	550. Lieutenants under 8 years' standing.	96. Assistant Surgeons, under 6 years' service on full pay as such.
14.	Captains, according to date of the completion of the service stated.		
15.	Lieutenants, according to date of commission.	184. Sub-Lieutenants.	
16.	Ensigns.	Midshipmen.	

\*According to date of commission.

In the English navy the pay and allowances, on duty, to flag officers, are nearly if not quite three times those of medical officers holding the same rank; and the pay of all commanding officers under like circumstances is about double what the medical officers of the same rank receive, except commanders, whose pay and that of staff surgeons with whom they rank are about equal. The junior medical officers ranking with lieutenants, and below that rank, receive more pay than their brother officers of the line in the English service.

We publish this week a very valuable contribution from a prominent officer, who, under the head of "Facts for the History of the Great Rebellion," contributes his recollections of facts of the second Bull Run battle.

It is the first of two papers we expect from the same officer; but we intend also to keep the head standing as that of a permanent department, to

which we ask contributions from all officers who have any facts of interest to communicate, or who are able to throw any light on disputed questions of the war. If the intelligent actors in the war will only be persuaded to put their knowledge of its movements thus on record, they will furnish for the future historian a mass of facts of inestimable value. We therefore advise and invite well-considered contributions to our department of "Facts for the History of the Great Rebellion."

We have received, and shall publish another week, an official copy of a series of resolutions recently passed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Kansas, by which the good State of Kansas remonstrates most earnestly against any further reduction of the Army of the United States, "until it is demonstrated that the Government is able and willing to protect its citizens from a constant aggressive warfare, waged in the very heart of its territory by an enemy which utterly contemns its power." The attention of Congress is called to the duty of the General Government to protect its citizens against such outrages as those to which the State of Kansas has been subjected by the Indians, who have within the past three years murdered more than one hundred and fifty of her citizens, and carried their wives and sisters into captivity to subject them to a fate worse than death. Hundreds of others have, in consequence of these outrages, been reduced to poverty; and the State has suffered largely in the loss of industry as well as in the direct destruction of property. A renewal of these depredations is expected during the coming season, and they will be sure to follow any reduction in our present military strength, which is even now unequal to the demands made upon it.

CONGRESS, or at least Mr. CULLOM's committee, is bent on making music among the Mormons. To the belligerent bill now before that body, for punishing polygamy, we have already referred; but therewith comes a batch of evidence which seems to us to show two things: First, that the Committee think the Mormons will not fight; secondly, that they don't care a snap if they do.

We take BRIGHAM YOUNG's empire to consist, all told, in round numbers, of about 100,000 souls. That is a liberal, but we think nearly accurate estimate. In an ordinary community it is a high ratio to regard one-fifth of the population as fighting men; among the Mormons, the excessive proportion of women and children will probably force us to set this ratio lower, that is to say, at one-eighth or one-tenth. At that rate, we shall have an available force, under BRIGHAM, of 10,000 to 12,000 men—not a despicable body, when well posted and inflamed by religious fury.

At a meeting of the Veterans of the War of 1812, held in Philadelphia on the anniversary of Washington's birthday, February 22d, it was reported that seventy-one had been taken from their little band by death during a little more than a year. Ten of these had died since the meeting in January, the youngest of them 75 years of age, and the oldest 90, their average age being 81 years. The veterans adopted resolutions urging Congress to adopt the bill now before the House to give the wives and widows of the surviving soldiers of the war of 1812 a pension of \$8 a month. As the Executive Committee of the Association mournfully declared, the proportion of deaths among them must henceforth be greatly increased, until, in a very brief period indeed, the last of their number will depart for his final home. Since the meeting in Philadelphia, another one of their number has gone, Commodore Stephen Champlin, U. S. Navy, the last survivor of the officers who commanded vessels of our Navy in the battle of Lake Erie.

Commodore Champlin was born November 17, 1789, at South Kingston, Rhode Island, which town was also the native place of Commodore Perry. He was a cousin of Perry's, his mother and Perry's father being brother and sister. His father was a veteran of the Revolution. He went to sea before the mast at the age of 16, and in six years had risen to the command of a ship. He entered our Navy May 23, 1812, as a sailing master, and was given the command of a gunboat under command of Commodore Perry at Newport. At the age of 24 he participated in the battle of Lake Erie in command of the *Scorpion*, which engaged with the *Lawrence*, and disabled her after a sharp encounter. Champlin then

gave chase with the *Scorpion* to the two vessels of the British fleet, the *Little Belt* and the *Chippewa*, which attempted to escape after the rest of the fleet had surrendered. They were quickly overhauled by the *Scorpion*, aided by the *Tripper*.

After the battle Champlin was placed in command of two of the prizes, the *Detroit* and the *Queen Charlotte*. In the spring of 1814 he engaged in the blockade of Mackinac in command of the *Tigress*, which vessel, with her consort, the *Scorpion*, in command of Captain Turner, was captured by a party of Indians and a detachment from the British garrison, who surprised them one dark night while at anchor near the shore, and boarded them with a superior force. All the officers of the two vessels were wounded, Champlin receiving a canister shot in the thigh, from the effects of which he never entirely recovered. In the year 1816 he was ordered to the command of the *Porcupine*, although so disabled by his wound as to forbid active service. From 1845 to 1848 he was in command of the steamer *Michigan*, his last cruise expiring in March, 1848. His entire sea-service amounted to only six years, but in that time he won a reputation which has made his name a part of our history.

"The naval triumph of which Commodore Champlin was the last prominent survivor," says the *Tribune*, "was in some respects the most remarkable in the history either of this country or Great Britain. It was the first encounter between an American and an English fleet in regular battle, and the British navy had never before known the humiliation of losing an entire squadron. The importance of the engagement, also, in saving the Northwest Territory to the United States, and perhaps in deciding the result of the war, can hardly be overestimated. Gratitude and patriotism have ever been ready to honor each commander, officer, or seaman engaged in that great sea fight; but the memory of none, except that of Perry himself, commands more reverence, nor is surrounded by a more romantic interest than that of the gallant young captain of 24, who opened the battle and closed it." Commodore Champlin was on the retired list of the Navy, and since the expiration of his last cruise in 1848, has been "waiting orders," which have at last come to him. He resided for many years in Buffalo, New York, and there he received his final summons.

THE new metallic covering for fire-arms, upon which the Government officers have been for some time successfully experimenting, promises, we should judge, to be useful to the service. Its object, as some of our readers know, is to protect the steel of the weapon from rust and from the discoloration produced by burnt powder after discharge. Not only our own Government, but other military authorities, have been experimenting for this purpose, and the covering used is in all cases, we believe, that of nickel, deposited in its pure state by the Isaac Adams process. The last transactions of the French Institute or National Academy of Sciences show that a scientific value was accorded to the new American process. In one experiment made by some officers, two similar weapons were taken—revolvers, we believe—one of them being carefully covered with oil, and the other nickelled under the United Nickel Company's process just alluded to, and buried for some time in wet sand. The former came out thick with rust, but the latter utterly free from it, and precisely as bright and free in movement as when buried. Of course it is not only an enormous saving of labor for troops, but an economy in the preservation of their arms, to use so simple a process. Besides, it is familiar experience how, after a long march or long exposure, arms become unfit to use at the critical moment of danger—an impossibility, however, with this new protection. As a fact, sportsmen, and other owners of favorite fire-arms, have been in the habit of using weapons coated with a deposit of silver but the cost of silver made this, of course, impracticable for the Army, while silver also does tarnish by the sulphurous gases produced on firing. Nickel, it was always known, would obviate both these disadvantages, being as hard as steel, and taking as high a polish; but the difficulty was that it could not be efficiently deposited by any known process, though partial success had been achieved by Becquerel, Kurtz, and others to whom the French Institute paper refers. It is this difficulty which the Adams process of the American Nickel Company has overcome. Nickel is accordingly already in use by policemen and others who go habitually armed, and also in the arts. If applied, as we presume it will be, to infantry and cavalry small-arms, the result will be a great economy in material, in the labor of troops, and in the removal of that anxiety as to the condition of weapons which always follows a storm or an exposed march.



## A CITIZEN'S IDEA OF DRESS PARADE.

From the "West Point Scrap Book," to which we recently alluded, we take the following in answer to inquiries received. We would say that those wishing the "Scrap Book" should send their names to Lieutenant O. E. Wood, U. S. Army, Fifth Artillery, Fort Warren, Boston, Mass.:

Perhaps the most pleasing sight at the "Point" is evening dress parade. It is 5 o'clock P. M., and the sun is gently sinking behind the blue Highlands, when the drums at the barracks commence their evening call. Now from the sally-port cadets attired in full military panoply saunter forth, and lounge in the vicinity of their respective companies. Now the drums flume once more, and almost coincidentally a long row of "gray-coats" stand, as statues, still and motionless, at "carry arms." The spruce orderly calls the roll. Each man as he answers "Here" comes to an "order." They are then formed in two ranks, and wait for the band to play them to the parade. The band now, in obedience to the wave of the baton of the drum-major, beats the "adjutant's call;" and that functionary, attended by his "markers" and the sergeant-major, marches out to make the alignment. Now the captains assume the command; and while from the band there streams a "rush of music, the four companies march to their destination. Each company in its turn is aligned by its captain; and all are dressed by the adjutant. They then come with a crash to an "order;" and the band, after three preliminary strains, "beats off" down the front, behind a gaudily dressed gentleman with a muff on his head, and a red pudding-bag hanging out of the top thereof. In his hand he carries a tasselled cane, of a large size, which he wields as easily as a child would a straw. On arriving at the end of his journey, he turns about, and boring a hole in the centre of the band with his magical baton, disappears from view in the bowels thereof. Soon he emerges, red and pompous as ever; and the band, by some mysterious movement known only to itself, apparently mix up in inextricable confusion in endeavoring to follow their leader. But now they come in as regular order as before, and march back to their starting point. Arriving there, they play a psalm-tune, then give three strains more, and at the final one the evening gun is fired, the Stars and Stripes flutter to the ground, and the cadets are called to "attention" by the adjutant.

The battalion is now brought to a "rear open order;" the adjutant walks stiffly down the front, files to the right in a manner shockingly abrupt, faces to the battalion, and sings out "Sent harms!" An instantaneous clash, and every cadet private regards with speculative eyes his polished gun-barrel. The adjutant then faces about, and tells the "officer in charge" that the battalion is now at his service.

This dignitary waves his hand; and, as he draws forth his trusty blade, the adjutant marches to the left and rear of him. The "officer in charge" now braces his sword close to his shoulder, grinds his heels together, and vociferates "Cree hump!" and the cadets once more "carry arms," with automaton-like precision. The officer again yells "Charge peanuts!" and every private faces half to the right, and repels an imaginary foe; "Cree hump!" and they resume their former position; "Der hump!" and they come to an "order." The officer in charge sheathes his sword, the orderlies report, and the adjutant reads the orders—"Snied States Milita 'Cademy, 'S Point, 'en York, J'y s'teenth, 'and sixty-four! 'Shal 'orders 'umber two!" etc., etc.

Finally the cadet officers march in a line to the "officer in charge," shake their fists in his face, and cut away with great precipitation on his retreating in a like manner.

The companies who thus far have been regarding the above proceedings with stolid indifference, now "carry arms," and are marched off at "double time" by the orderly sergeants, the band disappears, and the spectators withdraw, no doubt highly edified with what they have seen, but especially with what they heave heard.

## OBITUARY.

CAPTAIN JAMES G. BIRNEY, NINTH U. S. CAVALRY.

At a meeting of the officers Ninth U. S. Cavalry at Fort Davis, Texas, January 18, 1870, the following resolutions of condolence with the widow, relatives, and friends of the late Captain James G. Birney, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, were unanimously adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, in the mysteries of his all-wise providence, to remove from our midst by sudden death our comrade Captain James G. Birney, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; and

Whereas, The social and military standing of Captain Birney can only be mentioned in terms of praise; and

Whereas, The service has lost a brave and valuable officer, and his comrades and friends one whose gallant and generous nature had won him the esteem of all; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the officers of the Ninth U. S. Cavalry, do hereby tender to the widow, relatives, and friends of the deceased, our deep and heartfelt sympathies in this so great affliction.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished the widow of the deceased, and that they be published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and the Bay City Journal.

JOHN S. LOUD,  
First Lieutenant and Adjutant Ninth Cavalry, brevet captain U. S. A., Secretary.

DR. WM. S. WILLES, U. S. N.

U. S. S. SEMINOLE, NEW YORK, Feb. 14, 1870.

At a meeting of the officers of the U. S. steamer Seminole, held on board that vessel, then lying in the harbor of Key West, Florida, on the 4th of February, 1870, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God suddenly to move from our midst, and from a life of usefulness

and honor, our beloved friend and shipmate Dr. Wm. S. Willes; therefore,

Resolved, That while we should bow in submission to this dispensation of Providence, we deplore his loss and deeply regret that his untimely death has deprived us of a valued friend and the service of an efficient and accomplished officer, whose virtue and morality were worthy of the imitation of all.

Resolved, That we respectfully tender our deepest sympathy to the afflicted relatives of the deceased.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family, and that they be published in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL and the New York dailies.

Paymaster J. LINSLEY, JR., Secretary.

## OUR WOODEN SCREW FLEET.

WE give below the concluding paragraphs of the report of the board (of which Rear-Admiral Goldsborough was president) appointed last year to investigate our steam machinery afloat. It will be seen that the vessels referred to are the wooden screw fleet, the hulls of which were designed by Naval Constructor Lenthall, and the steam machinery by Chief Engineer Isherwood (the then chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering):

In conclusion, and in view of the latitude given to the board in its instructions, it may not be thought irrelevant to the matter of this report for the board to mention that, of all the vessels visited, not one, in its judgment, considering the combination of qualities which alone can constitute efficacy in a vessel of war, and this more particularly in connection with the amount of displacement occupied, and what would therefore, and of right should, be expected—no, not a single one, starting as it may appear—effectually fit, in these times, to cruise at large in war with an impunity commensurate with her class, or to cope with the cruisers now possessed by the more formidable naval powers of Europe.

Defectiveness of model, affording but little inherent stability in comparison with the extent of broadside surface, little relative buoyancy in a sea-way, and lessening durability by compromising longitudinal strength; hampering the use of broadside guns, and occasioning a rolling motion to expend shot with much more of noise than effect; forbidding the use of bow guns on gun decks entirely, and of stern ones also, except in a very restrained degree; accommodating but comparatively a minimum quantity of provisions and stores at most; impairing sailing qualities by shallowness of hold and want of keel, the former causing also an exposure of boilers in battle, which, of all things, ought to be avoided; and accommodating officers and crew at best but badly, is with us a stereotyped fault, and it is one of intense magnitude at least in regard to effective ships. And then again, this, bad as it is, is glaringly aggravated by ill arrangements otherwise to secure even tolerable, much less the best, results from both steam and sails, in view of their combined use, and the circumstances attending it.

Of all the vessels visited by the board, the *Wabash*, *Minnesota*, *Colorado*, and *Lancaster* are, on the whole, better than the rest for the purpose mentioned; but, besides being deficient in steam power—more particularly the former three—and also in other respects, they are now quite old in design, if not in age, and compare unfavorably with such vessels, for instance, as the *Orlando*, *Mersey*, *Galatea*, *Ariadne*, *Diadem*, *Doris*, etc., of England, and, of course, are not to be mentioned in comparison with the plated cruisers held in Europe. In short, they have had their day, and have now become much surpassed by others.

Since these ships were constructed, many millions have been applied by us to the building of other wooden vessels; but, alas! a chronic failure to produce even their equals in sufficiency, except in the single case of the *Franklin*, has been the invariable result; and really, to speak frankly, it is mortifying and humiliating to witness the amount of scarcely more than naval trash that has been turned out, and of which our Navy, as to vessels, is now in a large degree composed, whatever may have been put forth to the contrary notwithstanding.

Our country abounds with admirable mechanics, and with the most choice materials for constructing vessels of war of all kinds; and if we do not produce at least as good results as are to be found elsewhere, the fault is not to be ascribed to any want in these particulars. It must obviously lie in a defective system of administration.

Since the days of the Board of Navy Commissioners, when our Navy, as to ships, was, relatively, much better off than it is at present, there has been, until within the last few months, a settled indisposition, apparent to all, to invoke the experience of the Navy, either as to ships or any other matters of prominent naval importance. It has been held virtually at bay, or as though nothing of consequence could be derived from it; and to this course of procedure may be ascribed, to a very large degree, the existing state in which our Navy is found.

That board was established early in 1815, because of a development particularly manifested during the war with England, which commenced in 1812; and this was that our Navy could not be administered properly without the organized aid of professional ability and experience.

The law enacted in regard to it provided that it should be attached to the office of the Secretary of the Navy, and, under his superintendence, discharge all the ministerial duties of that office in relation to the procurement of naval stores and materials, and the construction, armament, equipment, and employment of vessels of war, as well as all other matters connected with the naval establishment of the United States. These very duties, it may be observed, omitting the qualification implied by the word ministerial, are precisely those prescribed by the organic law of 1798 establishing the Navy Department, to be executed by the Secretary himself, under the orders of the President; and, in fact, they are all it

does enumerate; and the iterated dictum of our courts, long ago given, is that "the official duties of the heads of executive departments are not merely ministerial; they involve the exercise of judgment and discretion." The law of 1815, therefore, it would seem, required superintendence rather than execution, on the part of the Secretary, in regard to the discharge of these duties, and left to him, in effect, more of his time to be devoted to cabinet matters, the patronage of his department, and to the reflection necessary to the best exercise of his judgment and discretion.

In this state of things it was that the board went to work, and then our Navy was but of small proportions. The board was composed of three officers of the highest rank, selected for their fitness.

In comparatively a little while it brought about a great change for the better, and won the respect and confidence of all as a body effecting, and well calculated to effect, much good generally to the Navy. The officers of the present day, although some of them may not know or feel it, owe much to its exertions. It existed upward of twenty-seven years, and during the time the Navy was largely amplified, and therefore the labors of the board increased correspondingly. As early as April, 1816, or scarcely more than a year after the board was first organized, the building of nine ships of the line and twelve frigates was authorized by Congress. In a word, in the course of its career, and toward its conclusion, it was so overcrowded with the management of details that it failed to bring about the best results in regard to a number of them, became unpopular, and the present bureau system was substituted in its stead. A more disastrous step, concerning our naval affairs, could not well have occurred, as the sequel has but too abundantly proved. Had the board been continued with the addition of the bureaus, tributary to its authority, all difficulties would have been removed, and the arrangement, in effect, most approved by the other navies of the world would have taken place; and until this is done in some form or other, as it must of necessity be sooner or later, and the earlier the better, no other remedy will be found adequate to the end of exorcising our pernicious naval system.

The present lamentable condition of our Navy as to ships, to say nothing of other matters intolerably flagrant, and not to be endured if our Navy is to be well ordered, is really a consequence, in a very large degree, of our present bureau system.

This remark is made with no idea whatever of impugning individuals who are, or who ever have been connected with the bureaus in any form or way; but to apply solely and exclusively to the system itself. They, of course, are, or were, but its adjuncts, voluntary or otherwise, as the case may be, or may have been, and therefore are not to be thought for a moment in the least responsible for either its origin, continuance, or value.

By this system, both in effect and practically, there is an obvious want of unity of action to bring about even tolerable results as to common ends; and, indeed, this is inherent to the system itself. Each head of a bureau very naturally attends but particularly to his own specialty, and he does so independently of the rest, or with no more of concert than may suit his own conception or inclination; and there is no organized professional supervision exercised as to his determinations; or, so to speak, each string of the instrument is attuned to a distinct pitch of its own, but still there is no congenious base to either, much less common to all; and base is the mother of harmony.

Under these circumstances, it is not difficult to perceive that whether, for instance, the guns or engines are to fit the ship suitably, or the ship herself only one or the other, or perhaps neither, properly, are points not unlikely to hover enigmatically until the mischief becomes past remedy. And in another way, and that concerning the *personnel* of the service, if it be permitted to allude to the subject, the bureau system has led to very unhappy consequences. Each head of a bureau, representing a particular class of officers, very naturally prefers that body to any other; and very naturally, too, feels inclined, if not, as it were, obliged to avail of his position, and secure for it whatever he can in the way of what he himself thinks it ought to have. But it is simply impossible for several of them to be doing the same thing, and probably at the same time, each shaping his demands from a distinct standpoint and for a different class, without giving rise to conflict and discord. At any rate the effect has been to bring about a broad breach of harmony among the officers of the service, or a state of feeling distressing to witness, and very injurious to order and discipline.

Besides, the system in view, in fact, has occasioned other serious misfortunes to the service; although, to be sure, it undoubtedly has been the means of some benefits; but the evils resulting from it are greatly in the ascendant.

Bureaus are not only convenient but necessary to good management, supposing them to be used as amenable to an organized professional authority of superior consequence; or, as they are used invariably in other navies that are well constituted. In this view of the case, we have not a sufficient number of them. In the French navy, remarkable for the excellence of its organization, administration, accountability, and economy, there are five "directions" and twenty-one bureaus, exclusive of one "direction" and four bureaus to attend to colonial concerns, headed by a council of admiralty, the president of which is the Minister of Marine; and in the English navy there are ten "departments" as they are termed—bureaus, in fact, headed by a board of commissioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, etc.

Our system has now existed for just about the same period of time that the Board of Navy Commissioners lasted, and ample opportunity has been afforded to judge calmly and impartially of its operation.

A BILL has been introduced in the House to abolish the reservation at Port Angeles, Washington Territory.



## RESPONSIBILITY OF DISBURSING OFFICERS.

FROM the *Internal Revenue Record* we take the following report of a case recently decided by Judge Blatchford:

This is an action of assumpsit tried before the court without a jury. It is brought to recover the sum of \$2,321 33, which the plaintiff alleges to be due to him from the defendant, as the balance in the hands of the defendant of moneys deposited by the plaintiff with the defendant during the year 1867, subject to draft on demand. At the time of the deposit of the moneys in question, the plaintiff was an assistant quartermaster in the United States Army, and the defendant was assistant treasurer of the United States at the city of New York. The moneys deposited were moneys of the United States intrusted to the plaintiff for disbursement as such assistant quartermaster in payment of claims against the United States. On the merits the defendant claims that he paid out the \$2,321 33 on drafts or checks drawn on him by the plaintiff therefor, and the plaintiff claims that such drafts or checks were some of them forgeries of his signature, and some of them altered to larger amounts than their true amounts. Independently of the merits, however, the defendant claims that there can be no recovery against him in this action.

The 5th section of the act of August 6, 1846 (9 U. S. Stat. at Large, 59), provides for the appointment of an assistant treasurer of the United States to be located at the city of New York. The 6th section provides that every assistant treasurer shall keep safely all the public money at any time placed in his possession and custody till the same is ordered (by the proper department or officer of the Government) to be transferred or paid out, and when such orders for transfer or payment are received, faithfully and promptly to make the same as directed, and to do and perform all other duties, as fiscal agent of the Government, which may be imposed by that or any other act of Congress, or by any regulation of the Treasury Department made in conformity to law. The 10th section provides that it shall be lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer the moneys in the hands of any assistant treasurer to the treasury of the United States, and also to transfer moneys in the hands of any assistant treasurer to any other depository constituted by the act, at his discretion and as the safety of the public moneys and the convenience of the public service shall seem to him to require. The act of March 3, 1857 (11 U. S. Stat. at Large, 249), amends the act of August 6, 1846, by providing that every disbursing officer or agent of the United States having any money of the United States intrusted to him for disbursement, shall deposit the same with the Treasurer of the United States or with some one of the assistant treasurers or public depositaries, and draw for the same only in favor of the persons to whom payment is to be made in pursuance of law and instructions, except when payments are to be made in sums under \$20; and that for a failure to safely keep all moneys deposited by any disbursing officer or disbursing agent of the United States, the Treasurer of the United States, assistant treasurers, and public depositaries, shall be held guilty of the crime of embezzlement of said moneys. For the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this last-named act, the Secretary of the Treasury, on the 27th of May, 1857, issued two sets of circular instructions. One of them was addressed to the disbursing officers and disbursing agents employed under the direction of the Treasury Department, and directs those officers to deposit all public moneys advanced to them for disbursement, in their hands, or which may be remitted to them, with the nearest or most convenient public depository, to their credit, to be paid out by such public depository only upon their drafts or checks in favor of the persons to whom payment is to be made. It further directs that drafts and checks upon public depositaries, drawn by disbursing officers or disbursing agents, shall not be returned to them after payment, but be held by the depository subject to the order of the Treasury Department, and that the disbursing officer or disbursing agent shall be furnished, on application to the depository, but not more frequently than once a month, with an official statement of his deposit account. The other set of circular instructions was addressed to the assistant treasurers and other public depositaries, and directs that whenever any money shall be offered for deposit with them by any disbursing officer or disbursing agent of the United States they shall receive it, and place the amount to the credit of such officer or agent on their books, subject to the drafts or checks of such officer or agent only in favor of the persons to whom payment is to be made. It also directs that whenever any disbursing officer or disbursing agent shall die or resign, or be superseded or removed, further payment of his drafts or checks shall be at once stopped, and states that specific instructions will be given in such cases as to the payment of outstanding checks, and the disposal of the balance deposited to the credit of such officer or agent. It also contains directions as to furnishing the disbursing officer or disbursing agent, on request, with statements in detail, showing the sums received for his credit, and the amounts paid out on his drafts or checks; and directions that the drafts or checks shall not be returned to the disbursing officers or disbursing agents after payment, but shall be kept in such manner as to be accessible if required to the accounting officers in the adjustment of the accounts of such officers or agents. On the 17th of July, 1862, an act was passed (12 U. S. Stat. at Large, 593) providing that any officer or agent of the United States who shall receive public money which he shall not be authorized to retain as salary, pay, or emolument, shall render monthly accounts thereof to the proper accounting officer of the Treasury, and shall, in default thereof, be deemed a defaulter, and be subject to all the penalties prescribed by the sixteenth section of the act of Aug. 6, 1846. By a circular, issued by the Treasury Department on the 27th of October, 1863, and addressed to the assistant treasurer at New York, the attention of that officer is called to the act of July 17, 1862, and a strict compliance by him with the requirements of that act is enjoined upon him. By

the act of May 2, 1866 (14 U. S. Stat. at Large, 41), it is provided that all moneys represented by checks or drafts issued by any disbursing officer of any department of the Government of the United States, upon any assistant treasurer, where such moneys are represented on the books of the assistant treasurer as standing to the credit of such disbursing officer, and such drafts shall have been dated before July 1, 1863, and shall have been issued in liquidation of a debt due from the United States, and shall remain outstanding on the 1st of July, 1866, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States, to be covered into the Treasury by warrant, and that the like course shall be pursued, at the close of every fiscal year, in respect to all drafts and checks which shall then have remained outstanding for three years or more. The act of the 14th of June, 1866 (14 U. S. Stat. at Large, 64), provides that it shall be the duty of every disbursing officer of the United States having any public money intrusted to him for disbursement, to deposit the same with the Treasurer or some one of the assistant treasurers of the United States, and to draw for the same only as it may be required for payments to be made by him pursuant to law, subject to the power of the Secretary of the Treasury to specially authorize such public money to be deposited or kept otherwise, under certain circumstances. This act provides for the punishment, as a felony, of a violation of its provisions. On the 10th of November, 1866, a circular was issued by the Treasury Department, amending the circular of May 27, 1857, by providing that checks drawn by disbursing officers or disbursing agents who may die, resign, or be superseded or removed, shall be paid from funds on hand to their credit, unless the same have been drawn more than four months before their presentation, or there are reasons for suspecting fraud, or circumstances which would lead a judicious officer to decline to pay the same.

It is quite apparent, from these provisions of law, and these regulations made by the Treasury Department, that moneys of the United States which were placed in the hands of the plaintiff for disbursement by him as a disbursing officer of the United States were not the less public moneys belonging to the Government of the United States, after they came to the hands of the plaintiff, and after they were deposited by the plaintiff, as such disbursing officer, with the defendant, as assistant treasurer of the United States, than they were before they reached the hands of the plaintiff. The moneys were never the property of the plaintiff. He is bound, indeed, to account for them to his superior officer, but, if he shows that he has, in compliance with the law and the regulations, deposited them with a designated depository, and that he has not withdrawn them from the custody of such depository, he does account for them. To an action brought against him by the United States for such moneys, it is a complete defence for him to show such a state of facts. If, as was suggested at the trial, the plaintiff has paid a second time into the Treasury of the United States the moneys which he so deposited with the defendant, that circumstance alone cannot create in favor of the plaintiff against the defendant a right of action which did not otherwise exist. The moneys were not voluntarily deposited by the plaintiff, nor voluntarily received by the defendant. There was nothing in the nature of a contract or agreement between the parties which could be broken so as to lay a foundation for an action of assumpsit. For a breach of duty by the defendant in not paying genuine drafts by the plaintiff for moneys deposited, the defendant is responsible only to the common superior of both parties—the United States. The obligation of the defendant was created by law, and not by contract, and was an obligation to the United States, and not to the plaintiff. I find for the defendant, and direct a judgment to be entered in his favor, with costs.

Starr & Ruggles, for the plaintiff; B. K. Phelps, for the defendant.

THE *London Builder* has discovered a new vulnerable point in the armor of London. It asks whether it has occurred to the strategists that the mouth of the main drainage sewer at Barking Creek is the very key of a position on which the safety of the capital rests? "It is not very difficult to imagine," the *Builder* goes on to say, "the possibility (in time of war) that the ship's crew of some rapid and impregnable iron-clad might, by a *coup de main* at Barking, fling back our accumulated river of sewage upon unhappy London by merely destroying certain machinery and flinging the debris into a tunnel. With the mouth of the main drainage stopped up, a shocking flood of pestilence, and an eruption of unutterable gases, would invade every house and blow up every highway." Ought not, it is asked, some precautions to be taken against so dire a possibility? A strong defensive work on the Essex Marshes, increased fortifications at Chatham and Tilbury, with the addition of a turret-ship in the Thames, it is hinted, might judiciously be adopted.

THE *Invalide Russe*, the organ of the Ministry of War in Russia, publishes a summary of the results obtained by the military administration during the year 1869. The army at present consists of 726,000 under the flag, with 430,000 others who might be called out as soon as there should arise a necessity for placing the army on a war footing, and a second reserve of 120,000. By the month of April next the new armament will be complete, and the country will possess 695,000 breech-loaders, of which 632,000 are on the Krink system, the remainder on that of Berdan. Four hundred pieces of modern artillery have been sent to the fortresses, raising the number to 1,000. The war budget for 1870 amounts to 140 millions of roubles, four millions more than that of last year.

A BILL is before Congress appropriating \$5,000 as payment in full to Richard M. Green, for the use by the Government of his patent machine for bending chain cable-links, connecting shackles and tackle-hooks.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE THIRTEENTH'S RECEPTION.—The reception which the Thirteenth gave on Monday evening, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, was the first to which it, as a body, had invited the public for several years. It has given its time to careful drilling and its own development. As a consequence, it has grown in numbers and proficiency and public consideration, and when its handsome cards for a full-dress reception were sent out a few weeks ago, they found a ready demand. Monday night was intensely cold, but the friends of the regiment did not mind the thermometer, and were early at the Academy, and in strong force. By nine o'clock the Academy was already brilliant with an elegantly dressed company. The ball-room itself was handsomely decorated. The ceiling was formed into a canopy of tricolored streamers. Festoons of artificial flowers and leaves decked the gallery tiers, and about the two lower proscenium boxes hung an artificial vine, brilliantly lighted. The rear of the stage represented a scenic view of a camp; in its front, stacks of muskets, field pieces, etc. Over the front of the stage, in prominent gas jets, blazed "Thirteenth Regiment N. G.," surmounted by a painting representing the new coat of arms of the regiment. On either side of the stage walls were paintings of Brevet Major-General Jourdan and Brigadier-General Dakin, former commandants of the Thirteenth. As the bands of 100 pieces under the direction of Grafula poured forth their thrilling strains, and the throng moved over the polished floor in the series of dances, the scene was in every way dazzling. At about midnight, in the midst of the lancers, the bands by a simultaneous movement struck up "Hail Columbia," and all eyes were immediately directed to one of the prominent boxes of the building, where appeared General Sherman, accompanied by Major-General McDowell, Governor Hoffman, and staffs, and many other prominent officers. General Sherman was greeted with applause. Dancing was then resumed, and the floor continued filled until past 2 o'clock A. M. It is impossible to give the names of all the distinguished officers present, both of the Regular Army and the National Guard service, but in addition to those already incidentally named there were Major-General Woodward and staff, Brigadier-Generals Meserole, Dakin, and Burger, and their staffs; Gen. Vogdes, U. S. A.; Colonel Hall, U. S. A.; and field and line officers from almost every regiment in the two divisions. Captain Barrio, of the Second Connecticut, and a number of his company, were also present from Meriden, Conn., as the guests of the regiment generally, and Company H of the Thirteenth especially. Every arrangement was in admirable taste and happily carried out. The Thirteenth certainly has reason for satisfaction. It did all and more than it promised.

THE PARADE GROUND FOR THE FIRST DIVISION, recommended by the Commander-in-Chief in his last message to the Legislature, has been the subject of a good deal of agitation among the members of the division, and every exertion is now being made toward the realization of the proposal. The idea meets with vigorous opposition from many of the taxpayers, but mainly from those who have never at any time taken any interest in the National Guard, and have opposed all movements from which it would derive any real benefit. It is true that the purchasing and laying out of some seventy acres of ground for the purpose would involve a large expenditure of money, but the benefits which the division would derive are also great, and seem to justify the expense. In this connection we give a circular sent by Major-General Shaler, the division commander, to the officers of the division, accompanying blank petitions for signatures. These petitions ask the Legislature for the enactment of the bill providing for the laying out of the indicated grounds. The circular reads as follows:

The Commander-in-Chief, in his last message to the Legislature of the State, was pleased to recommend that a parade ground of suitable size be provided for the First division. In pursuance of that recommendation a bill has been presented in the Senate, and referred to the proper committee, providing for the laying out, under the direction of the Central Park Commissioners, of a public square adjoining the north end of Central Park, to be prepared for and used by the First division whenever desired. The committee to whom the bill was referred have given a hearing to a number of the principal officers of the division, who, to the best of their ability, demonstrated the necessity of the proposed parade ground, the importance of securing the land without delay, and the benefits to the city likely to accrue by acquiring the land for the purposes named.

The plot of ground described in the bill now pending is a part of the tract lying between the Fifth and Eighth avenues, and between One Hundred and Tenth and One Hundred and Sixteenth streets, and contains about seventy acres. Every officer and member of the First division is, and every taxpayer and citizen should be, interested in securing a parade ground of sufficient size to form the division for grand reviews and for field days. While the plot described in the bill is not so large as is desired, it is thought best to unite our energies to secure at once what in a few years hence it will be impossible to obtain by reason of the increased valuation of real estate.

The accompanying petitions are furnished for the signatures of the officers and men, and of tax-paying friends. Regimental commanders will see that two copies of each kind are furnished to each company commander, with instructions to return them to regimental headquarters, from whence they will be forwarded through brigade to division headquarters, by the end of this week, if possible, and not later than the 22d instant. Those prepared for the signatures of taxpayers should be placed in the hands of intelligent and active officers or members, who will devote the necessary time to secure full petitions among the friends of the division.

The major-general commanding deems it quite unnecessary



to urge the active and immediate co-operation of each officer and member in a matter of so much importance to the present and future welfare of the division.

**FIFTY-SIXTH INFANTRY.**—This regiment is ordered to assemble at the regimental armory, Phoenix Building, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, March 7th, at 8 o'clock, to be mustered out of the service of the State of New York. Commandants of companies are directed to see that four copies of the muster-out rolls are prepared, and forwarded to Major Henry J. Foster, brigade inspector, at least one week before the day appointed to muster out. They will turn over to the quartermaster all State property now in possession of their respective companies. Quartermaster H. L. Crane will be in attendance at the regimental armory, on Monday evening, February 28th, and Friday evening, March 3d, to receive said property, and will give to each commandant receipts therefor. Adjutant Franklin Colt will furnish company commandants with a copy of General Orders No. 14, series of 1868, from General Headquarters, to which their particular attention is called, and the requirements of which must be complied with. So much of previous regimental orders as relieved Captains Henry G. Wood and August Fischer from duty, pending the acceptance of their resignations, is countermanded, and they will report to their respective companies for duty. Lieutenant B. Wm. Ennis, of Company F, is relieved from command of Company E, and will assume command of Company K. Captain Fischer having been ordered to resume command of Company A, Lieutenant Peek is relieved from command, and will report to Captain Fischer for duty. In conclusion, Colonel Chapman states that, "while regretting that our efforts have been unsuccessful in building up the organization, the commandant desires to express his thanks to those officers and members of the regiment who have so earnestly and faithfully given him their co-operation and assistance."

**SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.**—The non-commissioned officers of this regiment have organized an association to be known as "The Non-Commissioned Officers' Association of the Seventy-first Regiment N. G. S. N. Y." The objects of the association are to promote sociability, mutual benefit, relief of members' families in case of death, or their inability to provide for them by reason of illness, accident, or any other cause, and the welfare of the regiment at large. All persons who have been and are to be non-commissioned officers of the regiment are eligible to membership.

The Seventy-first, the "American Guard," true to its name, has seldom, if at any time, allowed the birthday of Washington to pass unmarked by suitable commemoration. Last season it gave one of the most elegant and best managed receptions ever given at the Academy of Music. This year the members determined to offer an entertainment "at home" in the handsomely fitted-up armory, 118 West Thirty-second street, having the character almost exclusively of a family gathering. One thousand tickets admitting one person were issued to the members, and no complimentary tickets were extended. It will be seen that the regiment proposed to make the reunion as strictly exclusive as the ordinary rules of etiquette would admit. The entrance to the armory and sidewalk extending to the street curb were entirely covered with a canopy of canvas, giving perfect protection from the chilly air to the many comers. At about 9 o'clock dancing was fairly begun, the floor of the main drill-room being at this time completely covered with the handsome assemblage. The room was entirely free from decorations, and the regimental band, under the leadership of Professor D. L. Downing, stationed on a raised platform at the southern portion of the room, discoursed excellent music, and, under its delightful strains, merry feet were kept in motion until midnight. The whole affair was creditable to the regiment, and most enjoyable and select in all its appointments. While dancing was proceeding on the floor above, First Lieutenant Edward Vincent Burk, of Company G, was entertaining the members of the company and their friends in the company room in sumptuous style. The genial lieutenant, while celebrating the birthday of Washington, celebrated his own natal day, and at the same time offered this feast and flow as a parting souvenir to his comrades, he being about to resign.

**HOWITZER BATTERY, ELEVENTH BRIGADE.**—The officers and non-commissioned officers of this battery are directed to assemble at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Friday evening, 25th inst., at 8 o'clock, in full fatigue, for drill and instruction. Officers are directed to provide themselves with company rolls, for a thorough revision and rearrangement of detachments.

**FIRST CAVALRY.**—We learn that many of the officers of this command, who, it appears, have been more or less exercised over the case of Madden vs. Fischer, are now likely to have the controversy definitely settled in favor of the latter officer, who, it is claimed, has been unwarrantably deprived of his position of lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. The third annual ball of this regiment will be held at the National Assembly Rooms, 334 to 344 Forty-fourth street, on the 21st of next month.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—The right wing of this regiment (Companies H, F, C, K, and G) is ordered to assemble for battalion drill, in fatigue uniform and white belts, on Friday, March 4th, and the left wing (Companies A, D, I, B, and E), for the same purpose, in fatigue uniform and white belts, on Monday, March 7th. Roll-call of companies at 8 o'clock P. M. The regimental armory will be open to members of regiment only, on the evenings above named. In compliance

with circular from division headquarters, dated December 24, 1869, and Special Brigade Orders No. 1, Series of 1870, a class for instruction in the manual of the sword, to consist of the staff and line officers of this regiment, is formed. The following-named non-commissioned officers have passed the Board of Examination and received warrants as non-commissioned officers in this regiment: Sergeants J. C. Boyd, H. S. Germond, F. Kelly, George S. Loder, and D. S. Steele; Corporals J. J. Behringer, S. T. Bennett, Samuel Budd, H. B. Dominick, W. A. French, R. A. Hills, D. S. Kittle, E. L. Nicoll, D. Scott, Jr., D. H. Scott, and B. M. Spencer. First Sergeant John H. Swartz has been honorably discharged from this regiment, pursuant to Paragraph XIII, General Orders No. 18, General Headquarters, Series of 1868.

The second of the series of promenade concerts to be given at the regimental armory, will take place this (Saturday) evening.

**ELEVENTH INFANTRY.**—This command (Washington Rifles) paraded in full uniform on Tuesday last, in celebration of Washington's Birthday. Colonel Lux was in command; and the field and staff paraded dismounted, in accordance with orders countermanding the orders for these officers to report mounted. The regimental line formed on Great Jones street, right on Lafayette place, at 2½ P. M.; and the regiment paraded five hundred and sixty officers and men. The day was intensely cold; and only a regiment like the gallant Eleventh would have paraded in such full numbers. The members of this command are always willing, be the weather fair, foul, hot, or cold, to parade in honor of the great Washington, after whom the regiment is named. The line of march was down Broadway to City Hall, where the command was reviewed by Mayor Hall, accompanied by Brigadier-General Burger, the commandant of the Second brigade, and a portion of his staff. The review was very fairly executed, everything considered. At its conclusion, the regiment marched up Chatham to Canal, Orchard, Grand, and Ludlow streets, to the armory, where the men, cold and tired, were finally halted and dismissed. During the parade the regiment sustained its reputation for steadiness and general good marching. Although at times the ranks were more or less broken, yet the parade was exceedingly fair, and a credit to the command.

In the evening the officers of the regiment and a few invited guests sat down to a sumptuous banquet given at the Germania House, 137 and 139 Canal street. Some fifty officers were present, and among the invited guests were his Honor Mayor Hall; Brigadier-General Burger, commanding Second brigade; ex-Colonel Van Buren, former commander of the Eleventh; Colonel Krehbiel and Lieutenant-Colonel Stauff, of the Ninety-sixth; Major J. H. Mahnken, U. S. A., and others. Colonel Lux gave as the first toast "Washington," which was drunk standing and in silence. "Our Commander-in-Chief," the next toast, was responded to by Mayor Hall, who, during his extended remarks, amused the company by innumerable witticisms. Speeches were then made by Brigadier-General Burger, Colonels Lux, Van Buren, Krehbiel, Lieutenant-Colonels Unbekant and Stauff, Adjutant Behrens, Major Mahnken, U. S. A., Chaplain Ebert, Quartermaster Giorgi, Captain Richter, and many others. The banquet was one of the pleasantest ever held by the officers of the regiment. The caterers, Messrs. Lahn and M. Welshofer, deserve great credit for the fine arrangement of the table, and the excellent quality and preparation of the viands.

**TWELFTH INFANTRY.**—The officers and non-commissioned officers of this regiment are directed to assemble for drill and instruction at the regimental armory, on Monday evening, February 28th. Battalion drills will be held at the State Arsenal as follows: Companies A, C, E, F, and I, on Wednesday evening, March 2d; and Companies B, D, G, H, and K, on Thursday evening, March 3d. The following non-commissioned officers, having passed the Examining Board, have been granted warrants: First Sergeant H. F. Banks, Company H; Sergeant Edward H. Healey, Company F, quartermaster; Sergeant Charles F. Rabell, Company G; Corporals John Rothwell, Company G, and Joseph O'Brien, Company I. First Sergeant Banks is especially commended, in orders, for his excellent examination; Sergeant Healey also receives praise. Corporals Crook, Pfealer, and Weeks, Company I, having failed to appear for examination, will not be granted warrants. Sergeant Luke Harrison and Captain Otto Bruner, Company H, are ordered to present themselves at the next sitting of the Board for a further examination. In order to comply with the directions of the Commissary-General of Ordnance, State of New York, commandants of companies are directed to turn over to the regimental quartermaster all unserviceable military property on or before the 7th of March. Blank in voices and returns may be obtained on application to the adjutant at headquarters.

Company B (Washington Light Guard), of this regiment, celebrated Washington's Birthday, in accordance with its usual custom, by a social reunion and hop, held at the regimental armory, corner of Fourth street and Broadway. The large drill-room was plentifully decked with flags and bunting, tastefully arranged, and the floor well polished for dancing. At about 10 o'clock the orchestra began the *entree* music, and dancing followed. The members of the company made a handsome show in the new uniforms; and the full-dress uniforms of other regiments were well represented. Ex-Lieutenant-Colonel McAfee, Captain Duckworth, formerly of the Twelfth, and now of the Twenty-second, were present,

in citizen's dress; also a large number of other officers of this and other organizations. The reception was under the charge of the following committees: Committee of Arrangements—J. L. Conry, J. F. Ernste, G. W. Dowers, J. Edler; P. Van Beuren, chairman; H. F. Gallagher, secretary; W. T. Manley, treasurer. Floor Manager—Lieutenant Charles Heisman; assistants, R. N. Waller, J. Heintz, T. Postill, E. Senebaker, J. C. Karr, J. J. Salter, S. Chatterton, Joseph L. Conway. Reception Committee—William H. Waller, chairman; A. McGerald, W. S. Archer, J. A. Sampson, J. Peast.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

We recently received an order from one of the companies of the Fifth Infantry, which read "General Orders 3," and was signed "By order of \_\_\_\_\_, captain commanding company." General or special orders do not appertain to company organizations, and the proper signature should have been "By order of Captain \_\_\_\_\_." At a recent social gathering of one of the companies of the Thirty-seventh Infantry, which was, by the way, a full-dress affair, we observed that the commandant of the regiment and several officers appeared without epaulettes. We observed also that only one officer present carried a sword. This officer was an adjutant who is generally well informed in these and other matters of military etiquette. The annual reception of Company B, Thirty-second regiment, at the regimental armory, on the 17th, was a brilliant success. Tasteful decorations, a handsome assembly, and thoroughly good management were assured in advance, and all were there. The addition of another room, this season, to the armory, gave greater space for dancing; but it was unfortunate that those who wished refreshments were compelled to travel several blocks for them. It was an objection incident to holding such a reception in an armory, but it was only a slight blemish. At the brilliant reception of the Thirteenth Infantry, it was noticeable that the majority of the officers present wore their swords during the entire evening. This was in accordance with the suggestions offered by the JOURNAL some time since. Conspicuous among the many officers present was a Prussian officer, ranking colonel of artillery, who late in the evening appeared upon the floor in full uniform, including sabre and helmet, and created quite a sensation by his singular appearance and the clatter of his sabre as it dragged on the floor in promenading. In the signature of orders, when the commandant or his executive officer has received a brevet rank, it is proper in every case for the brevet to immediately follow the name, and the actual rank and official designation thereafter. We make this statement to satisfy the doubts of many officers of the National Guard who have made inquiries on the subject. Some officers of the National Guard, we observe, who have received brevets wear not only the shoulder straps of their brevet rank, but also the uniform complete of that rank; as, for instance, a line officer breveted major is guilty of the error of wearing a double-breasted coat, or a colonel breveted brigadier-general the uniform of the latter. This is, of course, wrong. The brevet gives only the right to the insignia. The members of Battery K, we learn, have earnestly requested Captain John N. Heubner, their commandant, to reconsider his intention of resigning. It is hoped this popular and worthy officer will still remain in command of one of the best batteries of the National Guard. Martin Heldt was recently elected first lieutenant, and Casper A. Baden second lieutenant of the Independent Troop of the First brigade Cavalry, Captain Karl Klein commanding. Here is an incentive to the National Guard to improve in rifle practice. The London *Broad Arrow*, one of the very best of the English military journals, says: "On the occasion of the international boat-race between Oxford and Harvard various suggestions for other meetings in friendly rivalry were made. Among the suggestions was one which emanated from Lord Elcho, to the effect that an American team would be welcomed at Wimbledon to take part in some of the all-comers' contests, and possibly to compete, under certain conditions, in an international rifle-match. The subject has since been frequently revived, and it is understood that before the next Wimbledon meeting commences an invitation will be sent to America." Who is prepared to answer the call? The New York Schuetzen Corps, Captain John F. Gerdas commanding, will hold its annual *soiree* at Irving Hall on Monday evening next. The popular Major Daniell, of the Thirteenth Infantry, on Wednesday evening last was presented by the members of Company G, his former command, with a full set of elegant horse equipments. The presentation took place at the regimental armory, Lieutenant Wing making the speech; after which the company adjourned to partake of a beading beverage out of tall, thin-stemmed glasses. The full-dress reception of the Light Infantry which was held at Providence, R. I., on Washington's birthday, was a brilliant success. Ex-Colonel Ramsey and Captains McGrath and Cullen, Quartermaster Rogers, and a number of other members of the New York Twenty-second Infantry, attended. During the festivities Captain McGrath, of Company G, Twenty-second regiment, made the presentation of the elegant set of resolutions prepared by that company for the Light Infantry. A large delegation of the officers and men of the Forty-seventh New York regiment, headed by Major Rogers, attended the full-dress reception of the New Haven Grays which occurred on the 22d inst. Officers from the First, Seventh, Thirteenth, and Twenty-second regiments of New York, were also present. These officers give glowing accounts of the elegance of the affair, and of the hospitable reception extended them by the Grays, who made their appearance in new full-dress uniforms after the pattern of the Seventh New York. The continual agitation on the part of several of the daily papers regarding the existing trouble in the First company of the Seventh regiment only tends to increase a difficulty that would otherwise gradually heal of itself. Domestic troubles will occur in every organization, but with them the public at large have little concern. It is an unfortunate and intrusive journalism which splices them for the public entertainment.



**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—The bill setting apart a portion of the City Park, Brooklyn, for militia purposes, which is now before the Committee of the Whole of the Assembly, authorizes the field officers of the Twenty-third regiment, acting in behalf of said regiment, to enter upon and take possession of and have sole and exclusive use of that part of the City Park commencing at the southeast corner and running thence westerly along the north side of Park avenue to a point where the east side of Raymond street, if continued, would intersect the north side of Park avenue, thence northerly on a line at right angles with Park avenue two hundred feet, thence easterly parallel with Park avenue to the westerly side of Canton street, and thence southerly along the westerly side of Canton street to the place of beginning. And the said field officers are authorized to erect and maintain upon the said part of said park such buildings as may be necessary and proper for the use, accommodation, drill, and exercise of the said regiment, and for the transaction of the regimental and company business, and the protection and preservation of the arms, uniforms, books, and other regimental and company property.

This regiment assembled in full dress for battalion drill at the Portland avenue arsenal, Brooklyn, on the 22d inst., Colonel Ward in command. The drill was hardly up to the standard of the regiment, but the crowded state of the building offered some excuse for this. The regimental band was present, under Band Leader Papst. At the conclusion of the drill came a dance, there being present a large number of ladies.

**THIRD CAVALRY.**—Troop F, Captain John H. Doscher commanding, held its annual ball on Wednesday evening last, at the National Assembly Rooms, West Forty-fourth street. The music was furnished by the regimental band; the company large and the whole management most excellent. During the evening Lieutenant C. Hoops was the recipient of a handsome gold watch, the gift of the members of the troop for faithful services for the last twelve years in the company. There was a very large representation of the members of the regiment, among them Captain J. W. Haaren, ex-Captain Meislow, Lieutenant Fix, Sergeant Fred. Hall, and others.

Troop G, Captain John W. Haaren commanding, will hold its second annual ball at the National Assembly Rooms, 334 to 344 West Forty-fourth street, on Thursday evening, the 3d prox.

**FIRST INFANTRY.**—Company B of this regiment, Captain August Rassiga, held a pleasant "hop" at the regimental armory on Wednesday evening last. The drill-room was converted into a fine ball-room, by the skillful aid of Major Gunsel, the decorator. The company in attendance was large, gay, and merry, and through the good management of the officers of the command and a full corps of committeemen, the invitation hop was made a pleasant success. During the festivities the commandant of the company was presented, on behalf of the members, with an elegant sword.

**SIXTH INFANTRY.**—Colonel Joel W. Mason, the commandant of this regiment, has directed the regiment to assemble at the Arsenal, corner Thirty-fifth street and Seventh avenue, on Tuesday, March 15, Wednesday, March 30, and Monday, April 11, 1870, at 7 o'clock p. m. Officers in fatigue uniform, non-commissioned officers and privates in fatigue caps and frock coats. (Any trousers?—Ed.) Line formed at 8 o'clock. Companies H and D will drill with Companies I and K on Friday evening, the 25th inst. One of the field officers will take command of the battalion. The following resignations are announced: Lieutenant-Colonel Carl Schwarz, Adjutant E. B. Kinney, Captain F. Koch, Company B; Captain George Hubchmann, Company D; First Lieutenant Morris Cohen, Company A; First Lieutenant Anton Wilsbach, Company F; First Lieutenant Adam Eidenweil, Company I; Second Lieutenant Henry Wagner, Company E. The following elections have taken place: Frank W. Sterry, lieutenant-colonel, vice Schwarz, resigned; William Hesse, captain Company B, vice Koch, resigned; Frederick Schoen, captain Company D, vice Hubchmann, resigned; Charles Reichel, first lieutenant Company D, vice Schoen, promoted; Moritz J. Schnabl, first lieutenant Company F, vice Wilsbach, resigned; Maurice A. Lassner, first lieutenant Company H, vice Shenfield, promoted. "Abraham Shenfield" has been appointed adjutant, vice Kinney, resigned. The headquarters of the commandant of the regiment have been moved from No. 379 Pearl street to 394 Madison street, near Grand. Office hours from 10 A. M. to 12 o'clock M. (Adjutant Shenfield will have to improve in the arrangement of his orders if he wishes to receive credit and conform to the regulations.)

## OTHER STATES.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—First Regiment.—In accordance with Special Orders No. 3, issued from headquarters of the First brigade, this regiment, Colonel Johnston commanding, assembled at Boylston Hall, Boston, on Wednesday evening, the 9th inst., for the purpose of inspection by the general commanding the brigade. Seven companies responded to the order, Companies A, H, and I not being present, owing to the storm and the distance of their location from the city. At about 9 o'clock the companies present formed three sides of a square, and received General Burrill and staff, who inspected the line; after which the regiment broke into column of companies for minute inspection in detail. At the close of the inspection the line was reformed for a dress parade. At the conclusion of ceremony, General Burrill made a few remarks, thanking the companies present for responding to his order, and regretting the absence of the remaining three companies. He complimented the regiment on its appearance, and also for parading so strongly on such a short notice, considering the stormy weather, and the distance most of the companies were obliged to come. He stated, in conclusion, that it was his intention to hold hereafter an annual midwinter inspection of the different regiments in the brigade, and trusted, as it was entirely a voluntary matter on the part of the command, that it would be readily responded to. After the dress parade and dismissal, the orderly books of the companies were inspected by the brigade inspector. About 230 officers and men paraded for this inspection, and the command appeared to a disadvantage, owing to a lack of uniformity in dress on the part of the different companies. Companies D, E, G, and K were in full-dress uniform, with overcoats rolled on the knapsacks; Company F appeared without knapsacks; Company B had neither knapsacks, overcoats, nor gloves, and made a very unsoldierly appearance; Company C wore overcoats, but were without knapsacks; Company D paraded a number of new members, many of whom have held commissions high in rank in the late war, and its appearance was soldierly and solid. The absence of Companies H and I, which are among the most soldierly appearing companies of this regiment, went far to detract from its usual good appearance. At the formation of the line the adjutant neglected to give the order "Guides post," thereby leaving the company commanders in line when the command was turned over to the colonel. At the dress parade the officers of Company C did not advance four paces to the front at the command "Open order," and several of the officers neglected to lower their swords at the command "Order arms." The manual was only fair, and not up to the standard of the regiment. As a whole, the inspection was not satisfactory, although very fair, considering the shortness of the notice given, and the time of year. We have no doubt but what it will be an incentive to the various companies of the regiment to improve in drill and material, and present a better appearance at the spring parades.

The Seventh regiment was inspected by General Burrill on Thursday evening, the 24th inst., at its armory, Boston.

ONE of the numerous members of the Bonaparte family, after having unsuccessfully importuned the present Emperor for some favor, said, in a pet, "You at any rate have nothing of your great uncle about you." "I beg your pardon," was the rejoinder; "I have all his family."

DR. PINEL, a French surgeon, seriously argues in a letter to the that *Gaulois* absolute death does not follow decapitation until after about three hours.

PRINCE Pierre Bonaparte is the author of a "Treatise on the Use of the Sword," but for his own use he seems to prefer the pistol.

JENKINS says that General Sherman was affected to tears by Miss Bateman's Mary Warner.

## THE MAN WHO WILL LIVE LONG.

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Too much Truth often attaches to the remarks made in regard to unclivil clerk. At the AMERICAN HOUSE, BOSTON, the employees take pleasure in ministering to the wants of the guests.

## MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

NELSON—CLIFFORD.—At Cincinnati, Ohio, on Wednesday, February 16th, at the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, by the Rev. W. H. Van Antwerp, Major WILLIAM NELSON, U. S. Army, to Miss ANNE CLIFFORD.

KELLOGG—EVANS.—At the Church of the Epiphany, on the 8th of February, at 7 p. m., Lieutenant-Commander A. G. KELLOGG, U. S. N., to BETTIE, daughter of A. H. Evans, Esq., of Washington, D. C.

## DIED.

HOLT.—At Portland, Maine, February 21, 1870, Lieutenant HARRISON HOLT, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, aged twenty-seven years, six months.

NICODIMUS.—At Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 21st inst., MARIE LOUISE, infant daughter of Brevet Major and Mrs. W. J. L. Nicodemus, U. S. Army, aged four months and one day.

MOUNT.—At the U. S. Barracks, Key West, Fla., on February 3, 1870, NELLIE, only child of Captain John F. and Celia J. Mount, aged nine months.

LEE.—At Sedgwick Barracks, Washington, D. C., Thursday night, February 17th, of malignant sore throat, Lieutenant A. T. LEE, Fifth U. S. Artillery, in the twenty-sixth year of his age.

The Heavenly Euler, in his omnipotence, has seen fit to remove from the earth one of its noblest spirits; one which, in flying away to heaven, carries not only itself, but a portion of each of us, his weeping friends; one which, in the brief space of time allotted to it here, spread its attracting influence over all whom it approached.

There are few among us who could not be better spared than Arthur Tracy Lee. A tender son and brother, he was the idol of the family circle; a faithful friend and generous foe, he was the favorite of the camp; a polished and accomplished gentleman, he was admired in society; and as a gallant and accomplished officer, he has left a void in the service which cannot be filled.

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## PROPOSALS FOR CLOTHING.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING,

January 20, 1870.

SEALED PROPOSALS, indorsed "Proposals for Clothing," will be received at this Bureau until 2 o'clock P. M., on the 21st day of February, 1870, for the supply of the following articles, viz:

10,000 Blue Flannel Sheetings.  
10,000 Blue Flannel Overshirts.  
10,000 pairs Canvas Duck Trousers.  
10,000 Blue Cloth Caps.

One-half the amount required of each of the above-named articles must be delivered at the New York Navy-yard, and the balance to be delivered, in equal proportions, at the Boston and Philadelphia Navy-yards.

The clothing must be delivered, one-third within sixty days, and the balance within ninety days from the date of the contract, and must pass the usual inspection, and be equal in quality of material, pattern, style, and make, to the samples at the New York, Philadelphia, and Boston Navy-yards, and at this Bureau.

The fannel, nankin collars of the sheeting frocks and overshirts, and the cloth for caps, must be dark blue and purple indigo dye. The nankin collars of the sheeting frocks must be of the same quality and color as that on the fannel overshirts.

For description of the articles and schedule of sizes bidders are referred to the Inspectors at the Navy-yards above mentioned.

Offers may be made for one or more articles, at the option of the bidder, and in case more than one article is contained in the offer, the Chief of the Bureau will have the right to accept one or more of the articles contained in such offer, and reject the remainder.

Bonds, with approved security, will be required, in one quarter the estimated amount of the contract, and twenty per cent. in addition will be withheld from the amount of each payment as collateral security for the due performance of the contract, which reservation will not be paid until the contract is fully complied with.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, that the bidder or bidders will, if his or their bid be accepted, enter into an obligation within five days, with good and sufficient sureties, to furnish the articles proposed.

No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by such guarantee, nor from any parties who are not bona fide manufacturers of or regular dealers in the articles they offer to furnish, in conformity with the second section of the joint resolution, approved March 3, 1863.

The Department reserves the right to reject any proposal unless the responsibility of the guarantors is certified to by the Assessor of Internal Revenue for the district in which they reside; and unless the license required by act of Congress is furnished with the proposal, as well as to reject any proposal not considered advantageous to the Government.

E. T. DUNN, Chief of Bureau.

The time for receiving proposals for Clothing, under the above advertisement, is extended until 2 o'clock P. M. on the 4th of March next. Bidders will apply to the Inspectors of Provisions and Clothing, at Navy-yards, for information.

E. T. DUNN, Chief of Bureau.

Notice.—The wristbands of the Fannel Shirts and Sheetings Frocks must be one inch shorter around the wrist, and the sleeves of the Blue Fannel Shirts and linen Frocks one inch shorter than the samples.

The proposals for Duck Trousers are withdrawn.

E. T. DUNN, Chief of Bureau.

Life Insurance for the Army and Navy Without Extra Rates.

## ECONOMICAL

MUTUAL

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Capital, \$200,000 00.

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CAPS AND EQUIPMENTS of the National Guard Regiments of the various States constantly on hand and made to order.

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Fresh Garden, Flower, Fruit, Herb,

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with directions for culture, prepaid

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Agents wanted.

25 Sorts of either for \$1; prepaid by mail. Also Small Fruits, Plants, Bulbs, all the new Potatoes, etc. prepaid by mail. 4 lbs. Early Rose Potatoes, prepaid, for \$1. Conover's Colossal Asparagus, \$3 per 100; \$25 per 1000, prepaid. New hardy fragrant everblooming Japan Honeysuckle, 50 cents each, prepaid. True Cape Cod Cranberry, for upland or lowland culture, \$1 per 100, prepaid with directions. Priced Catalogue to any address, gratis; also trade list. Seeds on Commission.

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MUTUAL

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FOUR annual premiums for 8 years and 98 days.

One-third the premium may remain unpaid as a loan.

No notes required.

Thirty days' grace allowed in payment of Premiums.

OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY INSURED WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE.

A special guaranty fund of \$100,000 deposited with the Insurance Department of New York.

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Insurance on a single life taken to the amount of \$20,000.

The Company issues certificates, whenever desired, agreeing to purchase its policies at their surrender value, which, when accompanied by the policy duly transferred, are negotiable, and may be used as collateral security for loans.

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We have just commenced making a very fine American Watch, full jewelled, Patent Lever, chronometer balance, adjusted to heat, gold and position, 4 1/2 ounces down weight, equal in appearance and for time to a Gold Watch costing \$350.

We charge only \$25 for these magnificent Watches. All our watches in hunting cases, gents' and ladies' sizes. Chains, Collins Metal, \$2 to \$8.

Also, all kinds of Jewellery, equal to gold, at one-tenth the price.

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**Remember!** We use PURE INDIGO BLUE BROADCLOTH, which will not FADE or SHRINK.

**Remember!** Instead of paste-board in the top of our Army Cap, we use LEATHER, JAPANNED on BOTH SIDES. Consequently the tops are IMPERVIOUS to WATER, and will not WARP out of shape.

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In addition to wearing well, our Cap sets gracefully on the head, and preserves a trim stylish appearance till worn out. We have during the past year sold over 12,000 of them to Sergeants and Privates in the Regular Army, and have yet to hear the first complaint in regard to them.

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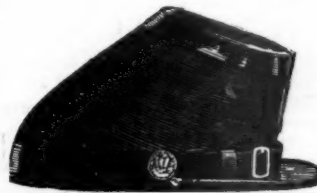
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Being represented extensively in the Army and Navy by our goods, and the members thereof being mostly smokers, we are desirous to have our Pipes, which are considered equalled by none, more extensively used by the members of the Army and Navy, and therefore offer them at the following prices:

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In the price is included a case and a Weichsel stem.

Good Amber Mouthpieces for Weichsel Stems we will sell from \$1 to \$2 50 a piece.

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## ARMY REFERENCES.

U. S. Grant, General U. S. A.  
 Robert Anderson, Brevet Major-General U. S. A.  
 General Frank Wheaton.  
 A. S. Webb, Brevet Major-General U. S. A.  
 Geo. E. Glenn, Major U. S. A.  
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